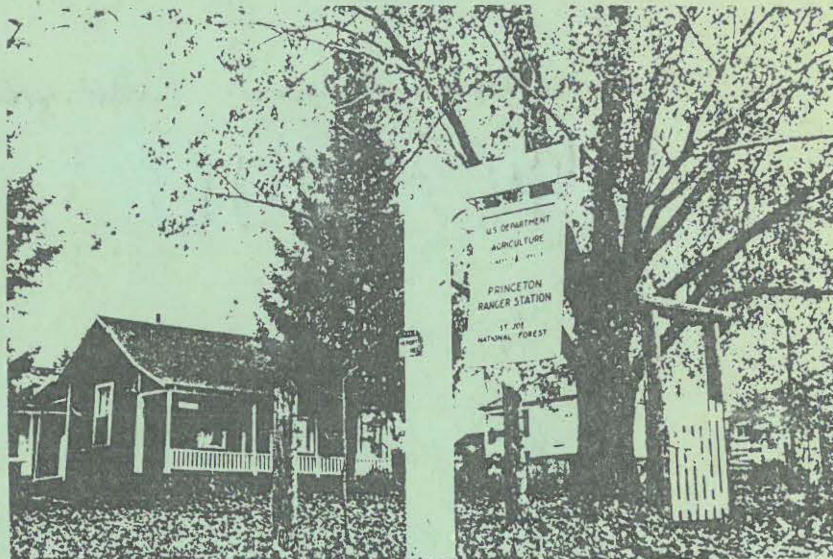


A History of the PALOUSE RANGER DISTRICT

Princeton
Ranger Station
(1923-1961)



Potlatch
Ranger Station
(1961-present)

Day now
SD
44
152
981

FORWARD

This first edition of the History of the Palouse Ranger District has been completed mainly due to the efforts of Rollo Perkins. Rollo spent the major part of his life (1928-1967) working on the Palouse Ranger District, and although now retired, his unselfish efforts in furnishing information, photographs, and valuable records, has made this history possible.

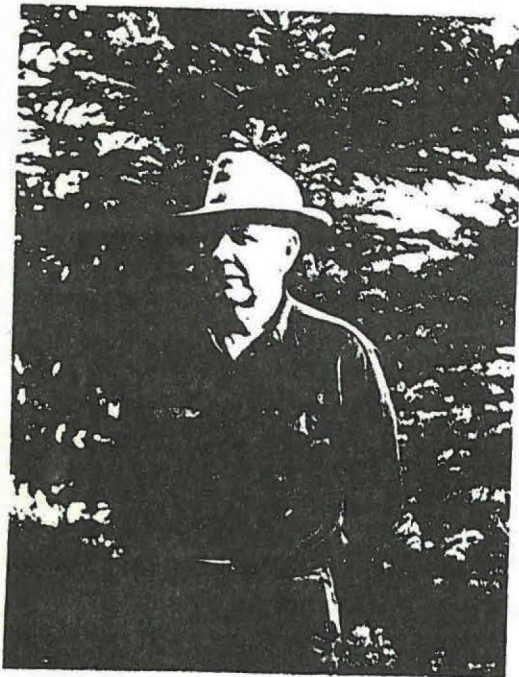
Rollo retired from the Palouse District in 1967, and is still living in their home near Princeton, Idaho. He and his wife have done some travelling and Rollo has many hobbies. And they spend quite a lot of time at their summer home on Lake Coeur d'Alene.

Rollo's positions held on the District ranged from Alternate Ranger, work in fire control, land exchanges, trail crews, and as Timber Technician just before retirement. He kept accurate diaries of work done on the District and his long, conscientious dedicated service was an inspiration to all those who worked with him.

Therefore, I respectfully accept this history as a tribute to Rollo's well-earned contribution to the Palouse District.

John Galea

JOHN GALEA
District Ranger
(1970-1975)



Rollo Perkins
(1928-1967)

PALOUSE RANGER DISTRICT HISTORY

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1. Administrative History

When the National Forests were set aside in 1905, the Palouse District, along with the rest of the St. Joe Forest was part of the Coeur d'Alene Forest. The headquarters of the Coeur d'Alene was located at Wallace for several years. Most of the Palouse District is part of the Palouse Forest Proclamation of March 2, 1907.

The first forest officer to appear on the Palouse District was Roy Headley. His title was Deputy Supervisor. He was raised in Moscow and came here in the fall of 1906. He stayed until August 1907, when a man by the name of Ed Harris took over. Harris was the first District Ranger. Headley began the first improvement work on the District. This was a pack trail which started at the Ira Kinman ranch and climbed over West Gold Hill and East Gold Hill. Willard Mallory and Emory Wilson helped in building this trail. When Harris arrived in August, he took over the trail construction but Mallory and Wilson did not like him and quit. Wilson went back to the Supervisor's Office at Wallace and was sent to another district. Until a few years ago Emory Wilson lived in Coeur d'Alene where I interviewed him. This same year - fall of 1907 - Harris started the Ohadi trail which went up Pup Creek, passed over Bald Mountain and Sunset Peak and came out at Fernwood. This trail was not finished until 1909. On this crew was a Jake Johnson, now deceased, who lived near Harvard for many years. Ed Harris was Ranger until 1917. He was an ex-Army officer and apparently quite overbearing.

At that time, one of the duties of the ranger was to check on homesteaders to see if they stayed on their claims and report to the Land Office if they didn't. Since many of these claims were to be sold to the Potlatch Lumber Company, the homesteaders and the company were very much disturbed by his sleuthing and at one time circulated a petition to have him removed from office.

Harris was succeeded in August 1917 by Ranger William Daus. Daus (pronounced Dawes) was born in Germany, served in the German navy and came to America at about age 21. He began work for the Forest Service on the Flathead Forest and soon became a ranger. One of the first things he had to learn was the English language. He became Deputy Supervisor and later Supervisor of the Lewis and Clark Forest, but the responsibility was too much for him and he asked to get back on a district. He was transferred to the Avery District of the St. Joe shortly after the 1910 fire and helped move some of the bodies of the dead firefighters from Cemetery Ridge to the Forest Service cemetery in St. Maries.

Daus was ranger on the Palouse District until the spring of 1936 - 19 years. During that time he was the only year-long employee. Dispatchers, scalers and the Ranger Alternate were hired for just the summer months.

Daug's was succeeded by Edd F. Helmers, who transferred here from the Wallace District. While Helmers was here, in the spring of 1939, the first assistant ranger was assigned to the district. His name was Dick Varney. The district had an assistant from then on except during the war years of 1942-45. The Ranger Alternate was not kept on district work year-long until the winter of 1942-43.

Helmers maintained a home in Moscow but spent most of the nights and weekends at Princeton during the fire season. Helmers was Ranger until March 24, 1942, when he was replaced by Charlie Powell. Powell came from the Libby District of the Kootenai. He stayed for 12 years until the spring of 1954. It was in 1944, during Powell's administration, that the first office space was rented in Moscow. It was in the telephone building on 4th Avenue. Later it was moved to the second floor of Idaho First National Bank building, then to the Trial Jury Room on the top floor of the Post Office building. Each year in May, the files were moved to Princeton and back to Moscow in October. This went on until the summer of 1960, when the office in the Courthouse in Moscow was leased year-round. Then the Moscow office became the main office of the Palouse District. The Ranger and Assistant Ranger and two District Clerks were stationed in the Moscow Office. There were two Work Centers - one at Potlatch and the other at Elk River. Bob Morgan, later Supervisor of the Helena and Bitterroot Forests, followed Powell in 1954 as Palouse District Ranger. He was here for two years until 1956. Then Dale Arnold, now in the Washington Office, came from 1956 to August 1958. Tom Finch was here from August 1958 to June 1961. On June 12, 1961, the new station at Potlatch was completed and moved into and the old station at Princeton was abandoned.

E. Delmar Jaquish was Ranger from July 1961 to June 1964, with Ed Laven as Assistant Ranger. In June 1964, Chuck Kern became Ranger, with R. A. (Ike) Ellison, who came in March 1963, as his Assistant Ranger. Art Seamans replaced Ellison as Assistant Ranger about October 1966. Kern served as Ranger until March 1967. John Johnson came from the Anaconda Job Corps in March 1967 and served as Ranger until November 1970. Ralph Meyer was the Assistant Ranger from February 1968 to April 1971. It was during John Johnson's administration that it was decided to move the main office of the Palouse District back to Potlatch. The office in Moscow was to be kept open for Information and Education work, and the Elk River Work Center was also still maintained. The Elk River Work Center opened in 1959 in a war surplus semi-trailer that had been a mobile dental clinic located at C-PTPA headquarters. New facilities on National Forest land were constructed in 1964, and the Work Center was continued until 1972 when it was closed and the two foresters were then stationed at the Potlatch office.

In December 1970, John Galea, from the Kenai Ranger District near Anchorage, Alaska, became the District Ranger.

2. Personnel

(Rangers on the Palouse Ranger District)

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>
1906-07	Roy Headley	Deputy Supervisor
1907-17	Ed Harris	District Ranger (1st)
1917-36	William Daus	"
1936-42	Edd F. Helmers	"
1942-54	Charlie Powell	"
1954-56	Bob Morgan	"
1956-58	Dale Arnold	"
1958-61	Tom Finch	"
1961-64	E. Delmar Jaquish	"
1964-67	Charles P. Kern	"
1967-70	John Johnson	"
1970-75	John Galea	"
11/1975-3/1976	Monte Dye	Acting District Ranger
3/1976-3/1981	David M. Colclough	District Ranger
4/1981-	Richard S. Hodge	"



Ranger William Daugs - 1917 to 1936



Ranger Charlie Powell - 1942 to 1954

(Photograph taken in 1974)



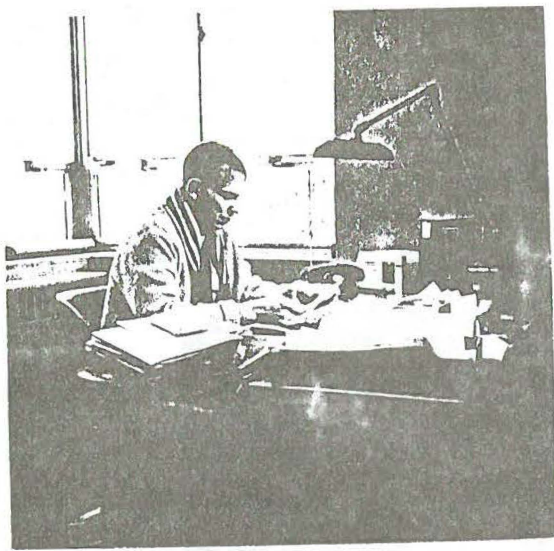
Ranger Bob Morgan - 1954 to 1956

(Photograph taken in 1981)



Ranger Tom Finch - 1958 to 1961

(photograph taken in 1960's in
Regional Office)



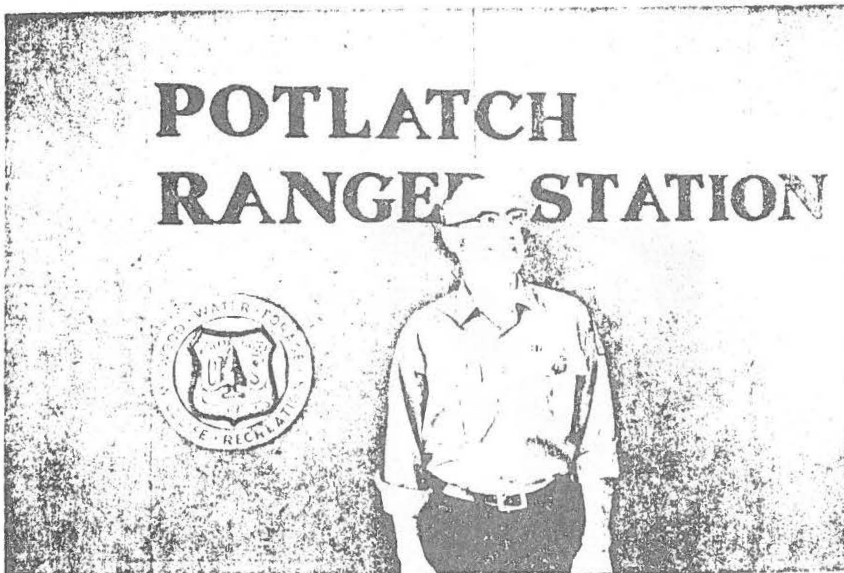
Ranger E. Delmar Jaquish - 1961 to 1964
(photograph taken in 1960's)



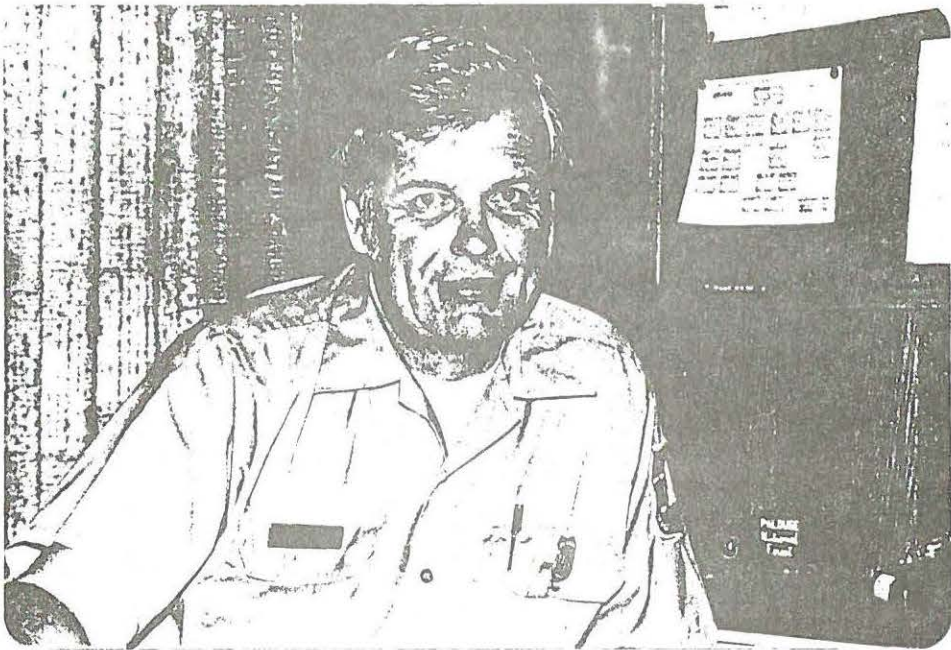
Ranger Charles Kern - 1964 to 1967
(exchanging deeds with Mr. Francis Stout, 6/66)



Ranger John Johnson - 1967 to 1970



Ranger John Galea - 1970 to 1975



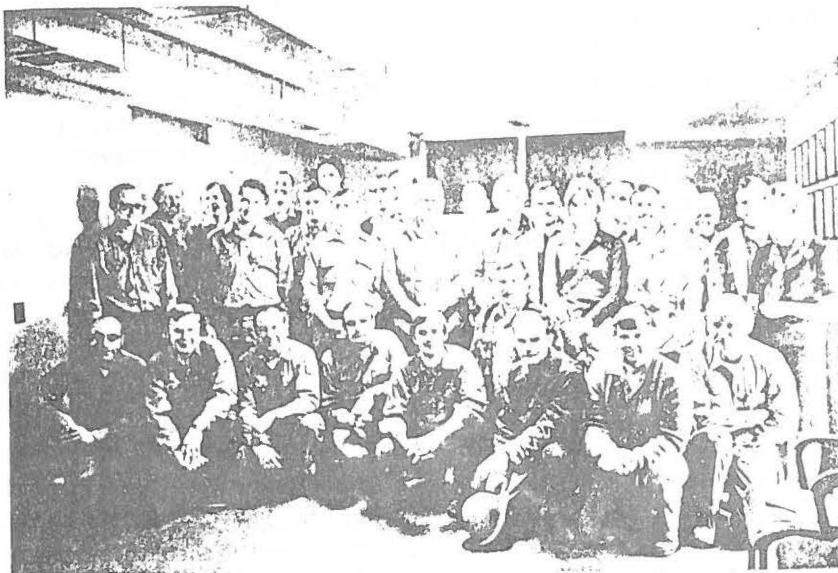
Ranger Dave Colclough -
March 1976 to March 1981

PALOUSE RANGER DISTRICT EMPLOYEES
(including Rangers)

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>
1906-07	Roy Headley	Deputy Supervisor
1907-17	Ed Harris	District Ranger (1st)
1917-36	William Daugs	District Ranger
1928-67	Rollo P. Perkins	Alternative Ranger and Timber Technician
1936-37	Roscoe Bull	Dispatcher
1936-42	Edd F. Helmers	District Ranger
1939-42	Dick Varney	Assistant Ranger
1942-54	Charlie Powell	District Ranger
1942	Bob Phillips	Scaler
1945	Christie Howard	Fire Dispatcher
1945-57	Jack Wells	Trail Foreman
1947-51	Dallas W. Beaman	Assistant Ranger
1950-52	Tom Seiger	Clerk, Dispatcher
1951-52	John Q. Lyngstad	Assistant Ranger
1952-54	Edward Smith III	Assistant Ranger
1954-56	Bob Morgan	District Ranger
1954-55	Burt Ward	Assistand Ranger
1954-70, 74-81	Delmer West	Forestry Technician
1955-56	Karl Glades	Assistant Ranger
1956-58	Dale Arnold	District Ranger
1956-58	Robert Mathison	Assistant Ranger
1956	Forth Thomas (dod 4/74)	Fire Control Aid
1956-61	Eleanor Root	District Clerk
1957-58	Bob Ferguson	(Summer employee only)
1958-61	Tom Finch	District Ranger
1958-59	Ralph Kizer	Assistant Ranger
1958-62	Wayne LaRue	Forestry Aid
1958-64	Chuck Robinson	Laborer
1959-65	Art Tietz	Forest Worker
1959-65	Attlee Weinmann	Fire Control Officer
1959-62	Ed Laven	Assistant Ranger
1959-61	Elaine Fry	District Clerk
1959-	Harold Buchholz	Forestry Technician
1960-69	Jack Summer	Dispatcher
1960-68	John Meschko	Engineering Technician
1960-62	Ray Woodbury	Forester
1960	Jerry Moore	Forester
1960	Bryan Cargill	Laborer
1961-64	E. Delmer Jaquish	District Ranger
1961-70	J. R. (Dick) Holoubek	District Clerk
1961-	Richard Hartley	Forester
1961-68, 73-	Henry E. (Hank) Johnson, Jr.	Forestry Technician
1962-64	Bob Ewing	Forester
1962-81	Marguerite Wise	Clerk (Moscow)

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>
1963-66	R. A. (Ike) Ellison	Assistant Ranger
1963-65	Jack Obermeyer	Forester
1963-	Roy Scoles	Forestry Technician
1963-68, 79-	James P. (Jim) Hertel	Forester
1964-	Nicholas (Nick) DeMattia	Forestry Technician
1964-67	Charles P. Kern	District Ranger
1964-67	Forrest Hayes	Elk River Forester
1965-69	Jerry Hamilton	Elk River Forester
1965-	John D. Krebs	Fire Management Officer
1966-76	Melvin Bradbury	Scaler
1966-80	Dean Johnson	Forest Worker
1966-68	Art Seamans	Assistant Ranger
1967-70	John Johnson	District Ranger
1968-71	Ralph Meyer	Assistant Ranger
1968-70	Dave (Shag) Aldrich	Elk River Forester
1968-70	Jim Wilson	Potlatch TM Assistant
1968-71	Edward Lundt	District Engineer
1968-	Marjorie Emerson	Clerk (Potlatch)
1969-	Kenneth Quick	KV Forester
1969-	Lonnie Way	Forestry Technician
1969-73	Howard Stearns	Elk River TM Assistant
1970-76	Dale Getz	Fire Control Technician
1970-75	John Galea	District Ranger
1970-76	Monte Dye	Potlatch TM Assistant
1970-75	Steve Christianson	Elk River & Potlatch Forester
1971-75	Victor Standa	Assis. Ranger & I&E Forester
1971-72	Marjorie French	Potlatch Clerk
1971-79	Dean Sazma	Administrative Technician
1971-77	Ed Wentker	Civil Engineer. Tech.
1972-76	Ruth Davis	Resource Clerk (Potlatch)
1973-76	Carol Dugger	Clerk (Potlatch)
1973-78	Jim Harper	Purchasing Agent
1973-	John Grasham	Forestry Technician
1973-77	David Leach	Forester
1974-78	Milo Larson	Silviculturist
1974-	James Dewey	Assistant Ranger & Resource Assistant
1974-76	John S. (Jack) Flavel	Civil Engin. Tech.
1974-76	Nolan Mark Wemple	Civil Engin. Tech.
1974-78	Curtis Glasoe	District Engineer
1974-77	Dean MacDonald	Cadastral Surveyor
1974-78	David Lysne	Forester
1974-	J. Mike Wells	Scaler
1974-	Mike Peterson	Recreation Technician
1975-80	Mike D. Weldon	Land Surveyor
1975-	Carol Lynn Johnson	Personnel Clerk
1976-	H. M. (Skip) Staffel	Surveying Technician
1976-	Dennis E. Gookin	Heavy Equipment Operator
1976-	Richard L. (Dick) Dudley	Assistant Fire Management Officer

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>
1976-	Harvey L. Backlin	Forester
1976-79	Wendy Lea Carson	Purchasing Agent
1976-81	David M. Colclough	District Ranger
1976-80	Gladys M. Hall	Resource Clerk
1977-	John K. Bunce, II	Land Surveyor
1977-	Gerald B. (Blake) Ballard	Timber Management Asst.
1977-78	Amos A. (Skip) Shrum	Surveying Technician
1977-80	Jerald L. (Jerry) Polzin	Scaler
1977-78	Laureen I. Posey	Receptionist
1977-78	Bruce N. Matteson	Civil Engineer Technician
1977-79	Thomas R. (Tom) Desmond	Civil Engineer Technician
1977-79	Audrey Lynn Burditt	Forester
1978-	David J. (Dave) Silviesu	Forester
1978-	Roger R. Hills	Suprv. Civil Engineer
1979-	Richard C. (Dick) Presby	Wildlife Biologist
1979-	Sheryn R. Kittel	Business Management Assistant
1979-80	Richard D. (Rick) Tholen	Scaler
1979-	Michael H. Ciscell	Surveying Technician
1979-	Sandra R. (Sandi) Flerchinger	Clerk/Typist
1979-	N. Eileen Ball	Procurement Clerk
1980-	Sherri Sisk	Logging System Specialist
1980-	Edward G. (Ed) Lieser	Scaler
1980-	Stephen J. (Steve) Cote	Scaler
1981-	David J. (Dave) Brady	Civil Engineer Technician
1981-	Tonya G. Gustin	Accounting Technician
1981-	Richard S. (Dick) Hodge	District Ranger
1981-	Maple C. S. Souther	Clerk/Typist
1981-	Mary Williams	Information Clerk (Moscow)



PERMANENT EMPLOYEES

Palouse Ranger District
Potlatch Ranger Station

2/75

Back Rows (All) Left to Right

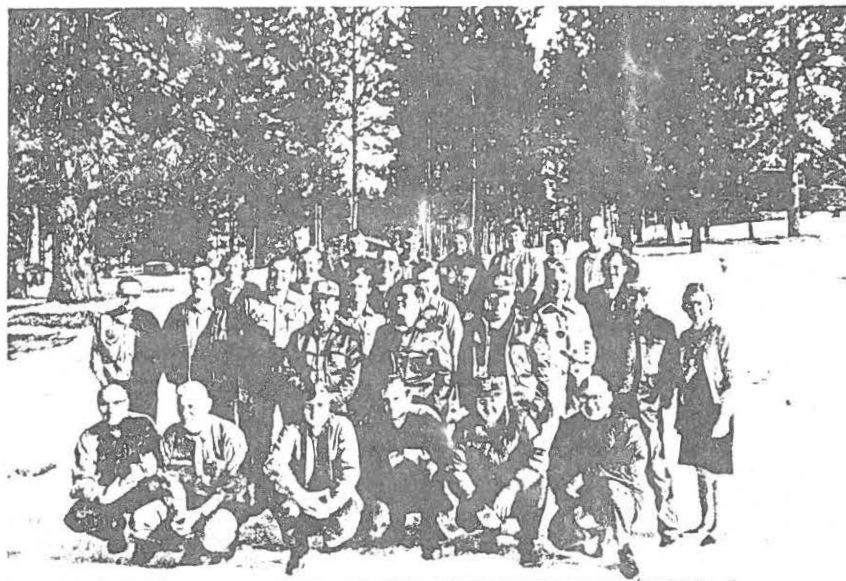
Monte Dye, Curt Glasoe, Dave Leach, Milo
Larson, John Krebs, Del West, Marjorie
Emerson, Hank Johnson, Jack Flavel, Dale
Getz, Irv Johnson, Dean Sazma, Dave
Lysne, Nick DeMattia, Dale Francis, Ed
Wentker, Jim Harper, Ruth Davis, Carol
Dugger, Lonnie Way, Marguerite Wise-
("photographer!")

Front Row Left to Right

John Galea (Ranger), Vic Standa, Jim
Dewey, John Grasham, Mark Wemple, Steve
Christianson, Roy Scoles, Dean MacDonald,
Ken Quick

Not in Picture

Mike Wells, Mel Bradbury, Dean Johnson



PERMANENT EMPLOYEES

Palouse Ranger District
Potlatch Ranger Station

2/75

Back Rows (All) Left to Right

Dave Leach, Del West, Curt Glasoe,
Lonnie Way, Ed Wentker, Steve Christian-
son, Carol Dugger, Dean MacDonald,

Marjorie Emerson, Jack Flavel, Jim
Harper

3rd Row Left to Right

Monte Dye, Dale Getz, John Krebs, Mark
Wemple, Nick DeMattia, Dale Francis,
Roy Scoles, Marguerite Wise

2nd Row Left to Right

Jim Dewey (with cap), Hank Johnson, Irv
Johnson

Front Row Left to Right

John Galea (Ranger), Ken Quick, Dave
Lysne, John Grasham, Vic Standa, Dean
Sazma



Palouse Ranger District

Administrative Personnel

2/75

Left to Right

Dean Sazma (Administrative Officer),
Marjorie Emerson, Marguerite Wise, Carol
Dugger, Ruth Davis (not pictured)



SEP * 72

Marguerite Wise
Information Specialist
August 1961 to May 1981

3. District History and Improvements

HISTORY OF THE DISTRICT (from personal diaries of Rollo Perkins)

The Princeton station was occupied continuously for about 38 years. The oldest building on the site was the warehouse. It was built about 1905 by Mr. McCumber for a livery stable. The station was used until 1961, when the new Ranger Station was built in Potlatch. The old warehouse was torn down in 1974.

The next oldest building was the residence, later used as the office. It was built about 1915. The material used in its construction was salvaged from an old store and post office building which stood just south of the office building. It was built by a man by the name of Gilmore.

Ranger Ed Harris and also Bill Daus, lived in Harvard. Their house was the ranger station. About 1922 Daus bought the Gilmore place in Hampton and built a small office. Daus had been transferred to this district in April 1917 from Avery and had lived down in the town of Princeton before buying the present site. The residence building has now been moved one block north and is occupied now by the Cowger family.

The bunkhouse was built in 1933 using lumber salvaged from an old logging camp on Emerald Creek. The gas and oil house was also built from salvaged material about 1937. The metal fire house was once a gas and oil house at the Willow Creek CCC camp.

The residence was occupied as such, as long as the Daus family lived there which was until June 1936. At that time it was converted to a kitchen and mess hall. In 1957 it was decided to shut down the kitchen because there were so few people using it. Also, the space was needed for more office room.

The first lookout was built on West Gold Hill during Ed Harris's time - around 1910. It was a steel tower with cabin on the ground. The cabin was removed in 1966. From the period 1935 to about 1950 the protection district included all of the Santa Creek drainage, the Tensed country and all the Moscow Mountain country. During that time an average of about 12 lookouts were manned each year.

1920

During the early 1920's only two lookouts were used, one on Gold Hill and one on Sand Mountain. A smokechaser was stationed at Cedar Grove, and the ranger alternate at the ranger station at Princeton.

1927

Up to this time there were few trails on the district. Most of them were built by prospectors and homesteaders. The exceptions were the trails to East Gold Hill, the one to Sand Mtn., and the Ohadi trail previously mentioned. The big trail construction program started in 1927. That year a trail was built from E. Gold Hill to the S. Fork of Hangman Creek near Sanders. Another was built from the State Road (now Highway 95A) along the E. Meadow Creek divide to connect up with the Ohadi trail west of Bald Mtn.

1928

During the summer of 1928 trails were built in the E. Meadow Creek on upper Meadow Creek areas by two 2-man trail crews.

Lookouts were located on West Dennis, Flynn Butte, Gold Hill and Sand Mtn. with a patrolman that rode horseback daily from Mineral Mtn. to the Crane Point area. A combination packer-smokechaser was located at Cedar Grove.

At Headquarters were the ranger and alternate only.

1929

Trail construction continued in E. Meadow Creek by two 2-man crews. Lookouts were the same as last year. Gold Hill, Flynn Butte, West Dennis and Sand Mountain. The patrolman at Mineral Mountain was changed to a lookout-smokechaser combination who was camped between Prospect Peak and Crane Point and hiked between these two points twice daily. Two men were stationed at Cedar Grove -- one packer and one smokechaser. On August 12 the big Charlie Creek fire started in Blackwell Lumber Company slash. This fire burned most of the West Fork of Charlie Creek and to the top of Bald Mountain.

The new highway from Emida to Harvard was being built in 1929.

1930

This year a seven man trail crew built trails along the Palouse Divide from near Bald Mtn. to the head of Feather Creek with several branches. A three-man crew followed up building telephone line. A standard L-4 lookout was constructed on West Dennis.

1931

Two new lookouts were added, one on Emerald Mtn. and one on Sunset Peak. Both were tent camps with platforms built in trees. A 3-man crew built a trail from Sunrise Mtn. to Tyson Peak with several branches. This expansion of the district to the north and east was due to the folding up of the Coeur d'Alene Timber Protective Association which had been handling the fire protection in the Emerald Creek, Carpenter Creek, Santa Creek and Hangman Creek areas.

1932

Lookouts were added on Bald Mtn., Tyson Peak, Nakarna Mtn., and Squaw Hump near Sanders. Two new smokechaser stations were added, one east of Sanders and one one-quarter mile west of Highway 95A on the East Dennis road. The lookouts on Sunset Peak and Flynn Butte were abandoned. Only the packer was stationed at Cedar Grove. Trail crews cut trails in the Mineral Mtn. country and in Martin Creek and upper Santa Creek. This was about the end of the trail construction program.

1933

Up to this time, the ranger and alternate were the only two people stationed at headquarters. This year a headquarters guard and a truck driver were added. A lookout was set up on Potato Hill. Total lookouts used this year were 10 -- West Dennis, East Dennis, Tyson Peak, Nakarna Mountain, Emerald, Gold Hill, Squaw Hump, Sand Mtn., Potato Hill, and Bald Mtn.

This was the first year of the CCC camps. One was located at Cedar Grove, one on Upper Santa Creek meadow and one on Charlie Creek at the mouth of Lacey Creek. They did mostly blister rust control work.

Lookouts were built in the Fall on E. Gold Hill and on East Dennis. Up to this time the only standard lookout was on West Dennis. Gold Hill and Sand Mtn. had cabins on the ground and 40' steel towers. All others were tent camps. The new lookout on E. Gold Hill stood idle for 20 years, because of the large amount of visibility clearing needed. West Gold Hill was used in its place. The land on E. Gold Hill belonged to the State of Idaho and after it was logged the E. Gold Hill tower and lookout house were renovated and occupied.

1934-1935

First roads were built by CCC crews. One was built from Highway 95A west to a mile beyond West Dennis. Another started at the same point and was built to the head of Emerald Creek along the Palouse Divide. During the summer of 1935 work was begun on Laird Park campground. A small dam was built in Little Sand Creek and pipe line was constructed into the park area. A camp for about 40 WPA men was built on Boy Scout land just west of Laird Park and clean-up work was started in the park. This work continued during the summer of 1936 with the construction of tables and camp stoves. Road right-of-way was cut from Highway 95A and road constructed to the Laird Park entrance. During the winter of 1936-37 road right-of-way was cut from Laird Park entrance to the N. Fork of the Palouse River. Also during this winter approximately 350 cedar telephone poles were cut on the Charlie Creek burn and were treated at a site west of camp.

By the summer of 1936 the first fire control plan had been completed and it showed that during an average season lookouts were needed on Moscow Mtn., West Twin, Potato Hill, Sand Mtn., Mt. Margaret, Gold Hill, Mineral Mtn., Mission Mtn., E. Dennis, Charles Butte, Prospect Peak, Squaw Hump and Tyson Peak. During the peak season, emergency lookouts were needed on Rocky Point,

Stanford Point and Muscovite and since this was an especially dry summer, all but Muscovite were manned, 15 in number. West Dennis was used instead of Charles Butte because there was no phone line to Charles Butte. This was the most lookouts ever used on the District. The next summer, 1937, only 11 were manned. A telephone line was built to Charles Butte, and West Dennis was abandoned.

1940

In the evening of Sunday, September 1, 1940, during a dust storm, 22 incendiary fires were started on a branch of Hatter Creek south of Princeton. In addition to the District crew, the entire CCC Camp at Emida was ordered out and put on the fires. By noon the next day, all fires had been found and were under control. None exceeded $\frac{1}{4}$ acre in size. The incendiary was not found.

1942

By 1942, standard lookouts had been built on Bald Mountain, Potato Hill, Mineral Mountain, Tyson Peak, and Mount Margaret.

1943

In 1943, the first women lookouts were used, four in number, and they were placed on Potato Hill, Mount Margaret, East Dennis, and Bald Mountain.

1944

In 1944, lookouts were manned and womaned on Moscow Mountain, Bald Mountain, East Dennis, Tyson Peak, Sand Mountain, Charles Butte, Gold Hill, Mount Margaret, Mineral Mountain, Mission Mountain, West Twin, and Potato Hill, 12 in number.

1947

The first tussock moth spray project. (See newspaper clippings)

1949

In the fall of 1949, the first radio was installed on the District on Bald Mountain, and more were added the next year.

1950

By 1950 the number of lookouts had been reduced to nine.

1951

In 1951 the State of Idaho took over the fire protection of a large part of the southern and western parts of the District.

1952

Began taking down telephone lines.

1955

In 1955, the District was further reduced in size when the Santa Creek and Charlie Creek drainages were transferred to the Clarkia District. Only four lookouts were used this season--Bald Mountain, East Gold Hill, Charles Butte, and Potato Hill.



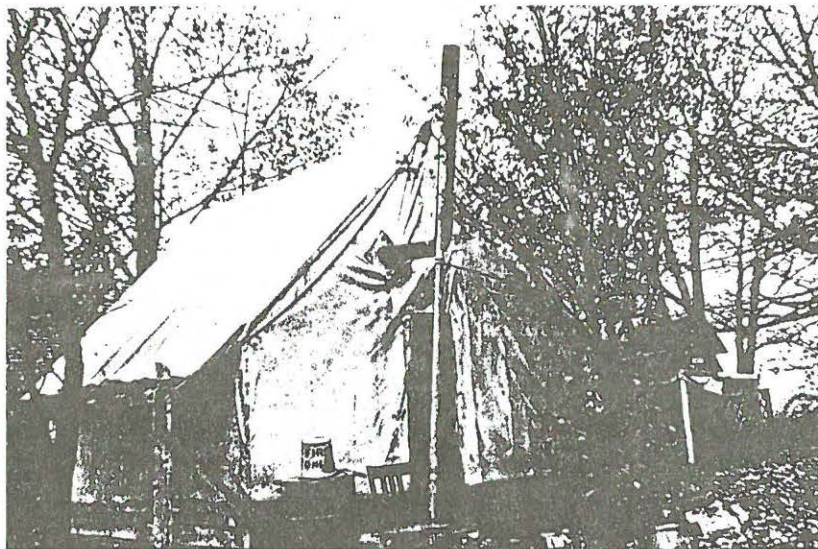
Ranger's Office
Palouse Ranger District
Princeton, Idaho

1961



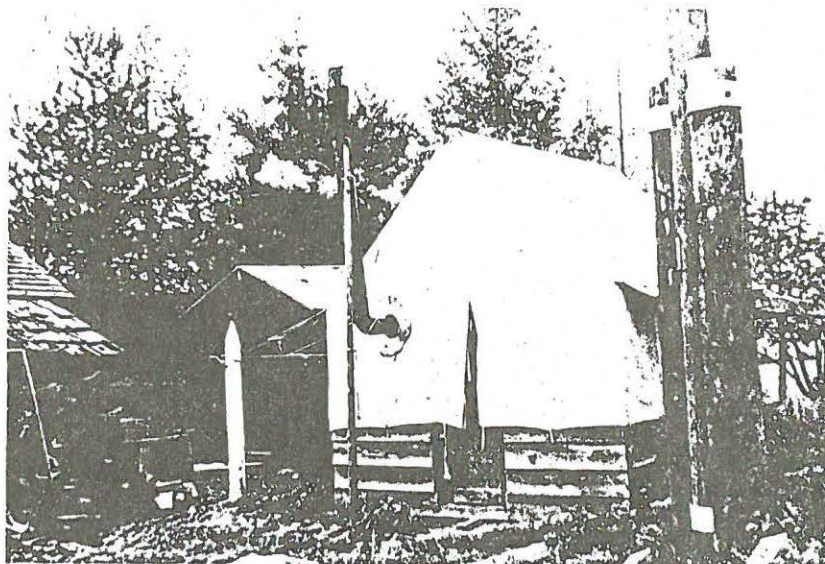
Warehouse and Oilhouse, Princeton Ranger
Station, 1961.

View is north across Highway 95A with
office at center of photograph and cook-
house on right.



Tent quarters - Princeton Ranger Station

1961



Tent quarters - Princeton Ranger Station

1961



Front view of Residence at Potlatch
Ranger Station

February 1975



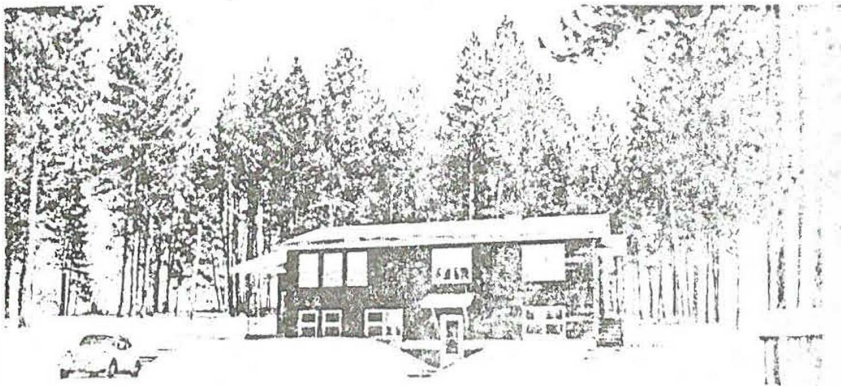
Back view of Residence at Potlatch
Ranger Station

1968



Garage-shop at Potlatch Ranger Station

February 1975



Bunkhouse at Potlatch Ranger Station

February 1975

4. Resources

a. Timber

Timber sales did not amount to much until World War II and even after that, until about 1954, there was not much effort made to sell timber unless someone wanted a sale put up. After 1954, small sales were advertised as prepared, and larger sales were put up for bid, either oral bid or sealed bid. About 1969, the District had 22 active timber sales.

The big land acquisition program which took place in the 1930's should be mentioned.

Firewood permits (free on National Forest land) increased four to five times in 1974 due to the energy crisis (shortages of coal and oil) and high prices.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was established in 1969. About this time the Forest Service was required to write environmental statements for the timber sales and planning units on their Districts. The public was involved in the decision making and planning for these areas. This slowed the timber sale preparations some.

b. Grazing Resource

In the early 1960's, the District had seven or eight cattle allotments with about 2,000 cows grazing on National Forest land, and two or three sheep allotments in the Elk River area with about 3,000 sheep grazed by McGregor Company.

c. Wildlife Resource

d. Recreation Resource

The Laird Park Campground on the District was started in 1935 and was opened about 1937. The Giant White Pine Campground was opened to the public in 1968 and the Little Boulder Creek Campground was started in 1961, initiated by the Deary Booster Club, under a cooperative agreement.

The Wilderness Act was passed in 1964 and Wilderness and Pioneer areas were established, although none were on the Palouse District.

e. Water Resource

f. Minerals

5. Historic Fires (See news releases)

Also see previous pages in this history, regarding number of lookouts on the District. The air patrol was started for fire detection in ____.

6. Geographic Names
7. Miscellaneous
8. Humorous Stories

In August 1947, a fire was reported on Camas Creek about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile north of the highway. The first man on the fire was Bill Casey, headquarters fireman from the station at Princeton. The fire apparently started from a kerosene lamp which was used to keep warm a barrel of mash used in making moonshine. Actually there were two barrels. The tiny shack used to house the still had burned and the fire spread to about 1/10 acre in size. This incident prompted Ernie Smith, Blister Rust Control clerk at Clarkia, to write the following poem:

A MOONSHINE INCIDENT -- 1947

The Princeton District, hot and dry
 All seared by suns of last July.
 The fire crew nervous, on its toes
 And cocked for smoke the Ranger's nose.

Then Mineral Mountain gave a call.
 One spot is covered with a pall
 Of smoke, so out the fire guard goes
 Equipped with tools and fighting clothes.

The azimuth sent him by a rill
 And there he found a whiskey still.
 Some honest man, in need of cash
 Had set him up three barrels of mash.

He started in to make a run;
 The thing exploded like a gun.
 Made no more noise than did the howl
 That issued up from Ranger Powell.

'Twas not the corn that raised his ire.
 The cursed thing set off a fire.
 The man had set the thing to boil
 And used some thirty feet of coil.

Someone who didn't know his stuff
 Said seven feet would be enough.
 But that got Casey on the prod,
 A boy from Old Kentucky's sod.

He said you use a coil too short.
 You'll pass out with a second quart.
 The crowd then quickly did agree
 That he spoke with authority.

Now Ranger Powell forced a grin,
And said he had no kick on gin.
But if they run it through a spout
He wished they'd put their own fire out.

He doesn't like expenses made
To follow up the rotgut trade.

E. W. Smith, Clarkia

APPENDIX

1. District Employee Letters

(Letter from Ralph Kizer, Forest Supervisor, Idaho Panhandle N.F., dated 2/28/75)

"Forgive me for not responding sooner to your November 6, 1974 memo regarding the history of the Palouse Ranger District.

I found no errors in what you sent me. If you would like a little more detail on my term on the Palouse, you may want to incorporate some of the following:

I was transferred to the Palouse Ranger District on October 1957 as a GS-7 Forester. My initial job was in land exchange field work. Del West, Lester West and I cruised several thousands of acres of scattered National Forest lands in the Bovill-Elk River country. We did this through fall, winter and spring. As snow forced us out of the high country in the fall, we cruised lower lands and moved back to the high country in the spring. The good news about this assignment was the healthy, physical, hard work with a couple fine guys to work with. The bad news was that little came of the exchange proposals (Potlatch Forests, Inc. changed its mind on most of it). Rollo Perkins worked with us some of the time.

We consummated one exchange with a Mr. Ramsdale. I think the Forest Service acquired about 240 acres in the Moose Creek area near Bovill in exchange for about the same acreage out there somewhere between Harvard and Deary.

At the time, Dale Arnold was the Ranger, Bob Mathison was the Assistant, Rollo Perkins was the FCO.

In the fall of 1958 I started on a new St. Joe Working Circle Timber Management plan -- a lot of photo-typing and field checking. Even though I was assigned to the Palouse District, my job was to start the entire St. Joe Timber Management plan revision.

In the spring of 1969 I was made FCO and small timber sale officer and was promoted to the assistant ranger position. My biggest headache was trying to keep Elk River cedar savages honest.

Rollo Perkins and I worked together a lot in timber marking.

I left in May of 1960 to become Ranger at Superior on the Lolo National Forest.

No history of the Palouse Ranger District should be written without strong mention of the long, conscientious, dedicated service of Rollo Perkins. I had met Rollo during the Charlie Powell administration and then worked with him later. In my estimation he "trained" more district rangers, assistant rangers, foresters and others than any other man I know. His penchant for hard, productive, accurate work rubbed off on all others, including me. I would say, if there is one man who contributed the most to the successes of the Palouse Ranger District over the years, it would be Rollo Perkins. Besides that, his high ideals, standards and attitudes strongly influenced so many of us that "passed through" the district, that the entire Forest Service is now much better off because of him.

There are many others who deserve mention other than the overhead people. Track down Attlee Weinman and corner Del West. They'll tell you about them. Some names coming to mind are Wayne LaRue, Jack Wells, Jack Sumner, Bob Ewing, Forth Thomas.

Ask Del about the two old-timers we had on the slash crew we had to suspend because they didn't report on their applications having been arrested for bootlegging during Prohibition.

My best regards to you all."

/s/ Ralph Kizer

(Letter from Ed Laven, Long Range Planning Staff, Nezperce N.F., dated 11/21/74)

"I'll include a few words here to say what I can about my tenure on the Palouse District and I have added a few names to Rollo's list of former employees.

You are fortunate to have Rollo's recollections. I would like to add that over the years Rollo had as much to do with the shaping of the District as any one single person. His personal impact was considerable and all on the positive side. I personally learned a lot from Rollo. He was and is a fine gentleman.

I arrived in Moscow in about April 1959 and left about March 1962. My assignment began while Tom Finch was ranger, and I left before Del Jaquish moved to the R.O.

When I think back on my duties, I can't understand how we took on so much. Of course, we didn't have to file environmental statements quite as often then. My principle job was heading an on-going

land exchange program which had been started by Ralph Kizer. We made a few small trades, but my appraisals began to say that the Forest Service land was worth more than proponents wished to offer and I believe most of the work came to naught, except that it provided the district with a lot of land line information and volume data that was subsequently used in timber sales. Our laws for land exchange were so stiff that the costs for preparing the exchange was equal to the land value and we were still offering an equal value in land.

We initiated the timber sale programs in the Elk River area while I was there. Up until about 1960 we didn't know too much about the Forest Service land in that vicinity. A lot of cedar poaching was going on and nearly everyone who lived in that neck of the woods sincerely believed that they had a right to take whatever was needed, build roads without permits, and run cows at will. I'm sure we didn't get this entirely stopped, but we had an interesting time starting. Some of the sales that we started were: Oviatt Cr., Johnson Cr., Swamp Cr., Dent Ridge, and numerous small cedar sales. I had never seen such huge cedar before or since. I can remember a cruise in one cedar bottom that indicated a gross volume of over 200 thousand bd. ft. per acre. The net was somewhere near 40 M bd. ft. I can also remember selling a single ponderosa pine in Johnson Creek along with a small cedar sale, that was so big that the butt log tipped over the loader and the gypo eventually had to blast it in half before it could be loaded. That big stump is probably still standing on a knoll at the head of Johnson Creek. Rollo handled the TM program west of Bovill, and I took care of it east of there.

The range administration over the entire district was also my job. This consisted mostly of On-Off counts, and the administrative reporting, collections, etc. However, we had an ambitious program of range improvement going on in the Vassar Meadow area with the Kendrick Cattlemen's Association. We installed several cattleguards, put in fences, and fertilized the meadows. This was all by cooperative agreement where we furnished the fertilizer and material and the permittee did the work. (We did the entire job with the cattleguards.) As I recall, we grazed a total of about 2,000 head of cows and about 3,000 head of sheep over the whole district, but my memory may be faulty.

Ralph Kizer had started a brush field rehabilitation program before he left, and I continued it after I arrived as the stock was already ordered and the site preparation money was coming in annual increments. We terraced and planted in the East Dennis Burn,

along Skyline Drive, and near Beals Butte. We also sprayed brush in Hangman's Creek and planted among the dead brush. At the time it all looked pretty futile to me, and I stopped the program. I've always wanted to go back and check results. Maybe you can host a trip someday?

The only thinning work that I can recall was done in the Collins plantation which is along the Bovill-Clarkia road just south of Porcupine Creek and Feather Creek. I worked on this job as a detailer from the Red Ives District in 1958. We thinned on a 12x12 spacing and piled and burned slash because we were adjacent to the road. I've stopped there once since, and our efforts are hardly noticeable - 12x12 was, of course, too conservative. This was the first thinning program we attempted on the St. Joe as far as I know.

One other interesting project that I can recall was the watershed rehabilitation work we did in the Upper Palouse (is there also a Gold Creek up there?) and in Brown's Meadows. On the Upper Palouse we restored old dredge piles and rechanneled the stream. In Brown's Meadows we attempted to arrest severe gully development by damming the gullies and reshaping gully edges. I was personally against the reshaping as this operation turned up the relatively sterile subsoils, but was overruled on this point by the Ranger. I've always wanted to check results on these projects also.

We began the drive to establish an Elk River Work Center in 1960, but this was not accomplished until after I left the District. I can remember making the first site plan and running the land lines on the proposed site. Our first thought was to buy Emery Hall's house and make a work center out of it. It was for sale at the time for \$15,000. This was vetoed by the R.O. for reasons that now escape me, except that they had nothing to do with practical purposes.

I also took care of special uses which was a near impossible job then and is probably much worse now. The biggest problem then was picking up the trespass cases and getting them on a permit. One such job was the Elk River Dump. One I can remember noting and not completing was the Elk River School. If you'll check you'll find that the ownership line cuts off a portion of the school building not to mention a large part of the yard. If that hasn't been settled yet, Vic will enjoy taking it on.

We completed development of the Little Boulder Creek campground near Helmer during this period and I can vaguely remember work on site plans for the Elk River Falls.

There is not a lot of anything else that I can remember, except perhaps that the assistant ranger job on the Palouse District was the most demanding job I ever had. They've become progressively simpler since then."

/s/ Ed E. Laven

(Letter from Attlee Weinmann, former FCO on Palouse RD, now retired - dated 11/74)

"There isn't much I can add to what you already have concerning my time on the Palouse District. However, I might mention a couple of false starts leading up to definite assignment there. In 1958 Supervisor Weyerman sent me to Princeton to take over the fire duties. Perkins had switched to Timber Management, the Prevention Guard had a heart attack, Ralph Kizer who had only limited fire experience was presently assigned, gave it up gladly. Weyerman mentioned the possibility of me being definitely moved there subject to the district being upgraded and my position also. This did not happen. So my stay turned into a three month detail.

In late March 1959, I again went to Princeton but again the promotion failed to materialize - so back to the S.O. in June. In August the District did get a higher rating and I transferred to the Palouse District in early September but am not certain of the exact date. My date of retirement was July 2, 1965.

I had little to do with the activities in the Elk River areas except for occasional inspections of slash disposal methods. I did however, participate in all burning activities. 1964 was the first year we functioned from our own camp-sleeping quarters. They were a little better than camping out. We still had to eat in town. Primarily all activities other than mentioned were handled through the Moscow office, under supervision of scalers and or the Ranger Assistant.

Forest Hayes was the first forester to be based in Elk River, I believe, and he must have arrived early in 1964 or 1965.

I hope this information is of some value to you and would appreciate a copy when the history is completed. Seems odd to think of the Palouse District having seceded from the St. Joe (to the Clearwater NF) but I can remember at times we wished we could have done that when I was there.

My best wishes to all my old friends and I hope to meet you someday."

/s/ Attlee Weinmann

(Letter from J. E. Sanderson, Director Fire and Aviation Mgt., R-2, Denver, Colorado, dated 11/15/74)

"Quite a surprise to hear from you down there. I worked on the Joe at Princeton and Clarkia as a scaler, with Bob Phillips the senior scaler, in 1942.

After a hitch in the Army Air Corps, upon returning from England I was assigned to the Palouse District, as Forester P-1, \$2,000 PA, on 6/19/45.

I worked there until being assigned to the Magee District as a P-2 District Ranger, 4/20/47, -- the year of the tussock moth spray project on the Palouse District.

Charlie Powell was the Ranger both in 1942 and 1945 to 1947. Ray Fitting was the Forest Supervisor and Rollo Perkins was the Alternate Ranger or General District Assistant.

Charlie's office was in Moscow year round, though some files were moved to Princeton yearly. Rollo and I lived at Princeton and used the office there. My wife and I lived in the 14x16 tent west of the Princeton cookhouse (old Daus residence) from April to November and moved into the cookhouse in the midwinter period each year.

Cristie Howard was the summer fire dispatcher and one-eye Jack Wells was the trail foreman.

The Thrasher family and their family - Chuck and Ada Scott and the Forth Thomas family were the pinochle playing social life, plus visits with the Powell family in Moscow and square dancing at the Grange in Palouse, Washington with farm friends.

Eldon Myrick was assigned to the Palouse as project leader for the tussock moth project in 1947. The hairy caterpillars made field work itchy in 1946 and 1947 for those who got hives from exposure to the caterpillar hair which encased the egg masses.

Dillon Wasson ran the Princeton store. He came down to our tent to warn us that we should avoid paying cash for all purchases and explained how we'd need a credit rating as a young married couple and should establish a good credit record by charging at least some grocery payments, then paying the bill promptly.

Of course, Charlie was hard to beat as an instructor, delegator, work supervisor and I & E man in all the communities.

We visited Charlie and Dorothy Powell in the Spokane Valley this past October. Both are hale and hearty and just as sharp as ever.

Walt Braybrook was the district packer and kept the stock at Cedar Grove or sometimes in the Laird Park campground.

The only pen & ink change I'm sure of is that the 1948 date for the Moscow office should be at least 1945 and possibly 1943 or 1944. Charlie definitely lived in Moscow and maintained the Moscow office on the 2nd floor of the bank building in 1945. He got out to Princeton at least once a week, and we frequently met him at Bovill, Cameron Spur or Elk River.

Come to think of it, we had Mexican National brush and fire crews until 1946, living at a tent camp at the old Emida CCC camp as I recollect."

/s/ Sandy Sandersen

(Letter from Art Seamans, Slate Creek R.S., Nezperce N.F., dated 11/15/74)

"Some of the dates were incorrect on your draft copy of the History of the Palouse Ranger District. My duty at Moscow was from 9/23/66 to 2/25/68. Ike Ellison preceded my assignment and Ralph Meyer followed me. The date for Giant White Pine campground had to be in 1967 since it was my only summer at Moscow. I was involved in maintenance and policy one season."

/s/ Art Seamans

(Letter from John Johnson, Chugach. N.F., Alaska, dated 11/29/74)

"Looking over the History of the good old Palouse District just about brought tears to my eyes. Really - it was great to see the history of the area and the names of so many great people that helped me so much during my short stay.

My only concern is that the history concerns mostly those of us who have left, and those people who remained - and always were "The Palouse District" - seem to be overlooked. I'd like to see stuff on Del West, John Krebs, Irv Johnson, Nick DeMattia, Mel Bradbury, Marjorie Emerson and Marguerite Wise - and all the others included in the history."

/s/ John Johnson

(Letter from Marguerite Wise, Information Recep., still on the Palouse District -- 1962-)

"When I started to work for the Moscow office of the Palouse District in September 1962, the main office was in Moscow, with Work Centers at Potlatch and Elk River. The District Ranger, Assistant Ranger, District Clerk and I were based in the Moscow office. Besides these four in Moscow, two foresters were at the Elk River Work Center and nine were at the Potlatch Work Center - making a total of 15 employees. They usually hired about 15 summer employees. These numbers remained the same until around 1972. By the summer of 1974 there were 31 permanent employees (including additional Engineers from the Orofino S.O.) and about 37 summer employees.

When the Forest Service re-organized in about 1971, the Palouse Ranger District remained on the St. Joe N.F., but was administered by the Supervisor's office on the Clearwater National Forest in Orofino. The rest of the districts on the St. Joe N.F., plus the Kaniksu and Coeur d'Alene N.F.'s were combined to be called the Idaho Panhandle N.F.'s based in Coeur d'Alene.

During the years of about 1950 to about 1965, Rollo Perkins the GS-9 Timber Technician who had been on the District since 1929 did all the timber sales and statements. A new system of accounting was started in about 1966 and I (as Part Time Clerk) did all the timber sale accounting forms each month, which included auditing scale sheets, truck tickets, calculating volumes and rates, and sending in required sale reports and Bills for Collection to the S.O. each month. At one time - around August 1969, the District had 22 active sales that required reports. These reports included purchaser road credits and Small Business Association (SBA) loans, which the Forest Service collected, and quarterly worksheets with rate adjustments. In about 1971 a full time clerk was hired at Potlatch to do the timber statements. In 1971 the main office of the District was moved back to Potlatch and all the files from Moscow, Elk River and Potlatch were combined to make a complete file in Potlatch. The Elk River Work Center was closed in 1972, and the two foresters were moved to the Potlatch office. The Ranger and I (clerk) moved from the County Courthouse office in Moscow to the Forestry Sciences Laboratory on South Main in Moscow. The Ranger had many contacts in Moscow with other agencies and the two universities and travelled back and forth to the Potlatch office. My job as clerk was changed to Information Receptionist. In June 1974 Vic Standa, who had been Assistant Ranger at Potlatch was moved to the Moscow office and a full time Information and Education Forester position was established. He took over the Ranger's duties of public contacts, working with universities and other agencies, and writing weekly news releases."

/s/ Marguerite Wise, Clerk (Moscow)

(Letter from Dale Arnold, on Lands staff in Washington Office,
dated 12/8/74)

"Enclosed is the material on the District History you sent. Don't have much to offer. Here are some more names of people who were on the district in 1956-58.

Forth Thomas - Prevention Guard

Eleanor ____ (Root) - District Clerk

Bob Ferguson - He was a summer employee on the Palouse in 1957 and 1958. He is now on the Gallatin.

Jack Wells - A long time District employee, who was still working in 1957-58.

Bob Mathison - Was assistant Ranger from fall of 1956 until August 1958 when Ralph Kizer took over. Ralph had been on timber in 1958 and in 1957 had charge of blister rust camps on the district.

I would like to receive a copy of the history when finished.

Two events that should be covered are:

1. The big donations and land for timber exchange program of the 30's which added much of the present ownership to the District.
2. The tussock moth epidemic and control activities in 1947.
About the first large scale aerial spraying program in Forest Service.

/s/ Dale L. Arnold

(Letter from Robert S. Morgan, now Forest Supervisor of Bitterroot N.F., dated 12/3/74)

"These are my suggested inputs to the District History.

Burt Ward was Assistant Ranger when I arrived in April of 1954. He was replaced by Karl Glades in October of 1955. During the summer of 1956 Glades was detailed to conduct a slash inventory of the Forest, and was replaced by Bob Matheson.

My only other comment is that, while it is not clearly indicated, Rollo Perkins was the Chief Assistant, or Alternate Ranger through most of the years covered. I believe it was 1956 when he moved to the timber job.

/s/ Robert S. Morgan

APPENDIX (cont'd)

2. Historical Newspaper Clippings

The following news articles were donated by Rollo Perkins.
They provide valuable historical facts and interesting reading.

PILOTS PREPARING FOR DDT 'WAR' ON TUSSOCK MOTH

(See map on page 5.)

Fourteen commercial airplanes of various types and sizes are scheduled to start a DDT war Tuesday on Tussock moths in an effort to save 350,000 acres of federal, state and privately owned Douglas and white fir in four neighboring counties of northern Idaho.

Completion of plans for the aerial spray attack, largest of its kind ever undertaken by the bureau of entomology, United States department of agriculture, found pilots of the Johnson Flying service, Missoula, in a survey flight over the area today to study the rugged terrain, special emergency fields and base operating headquarters at the Pullman-Moscow airport.

Johnson Flying service will use a Douglas DC-3 and two trimotored Ford airplanes, while the Central Aircraft corporation of Yakima will use 11 Travelairs, Stinson, Fairchild and Stearman planes.

May Start Thursday.

"If weather is favorable and the DDT arrives, we will start flying Tuesday morning," said Bob Johnson. "We may move our equipment to Pullman airport Saturday, but not later than Monday."

Al Baxter, manager of Central Aircraft, expects to move his equipment to one of the specially built landing strips about the same time.

The project will be one of the greatest flying operations ever undertaken in the northwest. It will be a series of landings and take-offs as the supply of DDT will be dropped rapidly over the infested areas.

The Fords will carry 400 gallons of the solution to be released in six or seven minutes, while the DC-3 will expend its 1000 gallons in about eight minutes. The Fairchilds will carry 250 gallons of the solution; the Stinson, 150 gallons; Fairchild, 200 gallons, and Stearmen, 75 gallons.

Flight specifications are rigid and involve considerable hazard, as the solution must be released at "tree top" altitudes. The wind can not exceed 10 miles an hour as the solution is released. If there is rain, there will be no flying.

Flight operations' officials estimate flying will be done between dawn and 9 a. m., when the best weather conditions prevail.

Will Establish Branch.

Branch headquarters of the bureau of entomology have been established in Moscow, under the direction of James Evenden of Coeur d'Alene, head of the bureau. In the Moscow headquarters are Jack Frost, forest service field representative; Norman Henry, fiscal agent; George Duvendock, in charge of general administration; Joe Chamberlain, purchasing agent; and Eldon Myrick, in charge of information and public relations.

"We will use about 40 tank cars of the DDT solution," said Evenden. "The project will be completed about July 1."

ST. JOE FOREST GIVEN DDT SPRAY IN AERIAL ATTACK

Thousands of gallons of deadly DDT solution filtered down through Douglas and white fir of the St. Joe national forest near Moscow mountain and Laird park soon after dawn this morning in the initial aerial attack on Tussock moths, which have infested 350,000 acres of timber in north Idaho.

At 3:50 a. m., two tri-motored Fords and a DC-3 plane of the Johnson Flying Service, Missoula, roared off the Pullman-Moscow airport with their loads of DDT, which were sprayed in an average of eight minutes. During the next four hours there were continuous landings and take-offs as ground crews refueled the airplanes with both gasoline and DDT. At 8:30 the initial operation ended. Five thousand gallons of the solution had been sprayed in what officials of the bureau of entomology, department of agriculture, called "a most interesting and satisfactory beginning."

At Laird park where smaller Stinson planes of Central Aircraft corporation of Yakima were to unload 6000 gallons of DDT, the operations for the day were halted after seven loads were dropped because one Stinson failed to get off the ground and nosed over in a plowed field, said E. H. Myrick, forest service coordinator.

No one was hurt, but crews were rushed to Laird park from Moscow today to add 200 feet to the 1800-foot runway there to make tomorrow's flying safer.

Another rail tank car carrying nearly 11,000 gallons of DDT solution is due in Moscow today, giving enough "ammunition" for tomorrow's operations from both fields, Myrick explained.

Weather Ideal.

Weather conditions were reported ideal. Pilots of the Johnson Flying service were said to have flown less than 150 feet above the tree tops as the spray fogged out behind them.

"Operations would have continued beyond 8:30 this morning if we had had the spray," said Myrick. "Only one car of the solution was delivered. It held 11,000 gallons. Seven more cars are due in but have not arrived."

From the air it appeared that pilots were covering the area perfectly, making a slight overlap of spray as they passed up and down their flight lines. It was said that the altitude at which they flew would spray a path 300 to 400 feet wide.

Ground Crews to Report.

Myrick said that later in the day reports will be received from entomologist employees in the sprayed areas. These men have ground glasses to tell how much spray reaches the ground.

The number of droplets on the glass show the density with which the spray is covering the infested firs. If the density is not sufficient, the area will receive a second spraying.

SPRAY OPERATIONS ARE SUCCEEDING

Officials directing the 350,000-acre Tussock moth project in the Moscow, Idaho, area expressed extreme satisfaction and enthusiasm today.

They expressed confidence of the success of the DDT aerial warfare on the deadly moth infestation, which has threatened the loss of \$60,000,000 in 1947 merchantable Douglas and white fir timber in the St. Joe national forest.

Entomologists today discovered that the eggs of the Tussock moth are just beginning to hatch at the lower elevations where the DDT solution is being sprayed by airplanes of the Johnson Flying Service of Missoula, Mont., and Central Aircraft corporation of Yakima.

Spray Filters to Ground.

Coupled with this important discovery are preliminary reports from ground crews that the spray is satisfactorily filtering through the valuable standings of firs to the ground. This means, said E. H. Myrick, project coordinator, that sufficient spray is being put out to kill the moth. Another important factor is that pilots are "sticking on their flight lines," which indicates there are no "misses."

"Things couldn't be better," said Myrick. "Warm weather is hatching the egg masses at the lower elevations where we are spraying. Particularly is this true in the vicinity of Princeton. We have sprayed 11,000 gallons of the solution."

Flight operations were temporarily discontinued this morning, but will be resumed this afternoon following the arrival of another carload of 11,000 gallons of solution.

Another carload is due tomorrow, three are due Monday. Thereafter, it is anticipated the solution will arrive on schedule to permit regular daily flights, providing weather conditions are satisfactory.

"The airplane accident at Laird park yesterday was not serious," said Myrick. "The plane will be back in operation Monday."

Moth Spray Job About Complete

Weather permitting, the 350,000-acre Tussock moth project in the St. Joe national forest will be completed early next week, M. H. Myrick, coordinator for the government on the project, said today.

However, the job of aerial spraying will not be over for the Johnson Flying Service of Missoula, which has been given the added work of spraying 14,000 acres of moth infestation in the Umatilla forest and about 5000 acres just across the Washington-Idaho line on the Washington side.

READY TO BATTLE TUSSOCK MOTH

By ELLSWORTH C. FRENCH,
Chronicle Staff Representative.

HEADQUARTERS, TUSSOCK MOTH PROJECT, MOSCOW, Idaho, May 19.—An aerial armada of 14 commercial planes is set for a Thursday dawn departure from Pullman-Moscow airport and Laird emergency field in St. Joe national forest on a mission to save an estimated \$60,000,000 in merchantable Douglas and white fir timber that otherwise would be lost to the tussock moth.

Headquarters is on the campus of the University of Idaho, which owns 14,000 acres of timber in the infested area.

A two-day delay became necessary because the DDT solution did not arrive over the week end. Railroad authorities have assured James Evenden, Coeur d'Alene head of the bureau of entomology department of agriculture, that the spray solution will arrive tomorrow.

Wednesday will be spent by ground and flight crews of the Johnson flying service, Missoula, and Central Aircraft corporation of Yakima in perfecting details for the 350,000-acre spray project.

Sees Huge Loss in '48.

Those responsible for its success estimate another loss of \$58,000,000 in the 1948 merchantable timber crop is possible and there are 233 acres of young, reproduction timber on which the deadly moth might launch its attack.

Plans for the campaign on the moth resemble those of a well-planned battle. Nothing has been overlooked, even to providing for men in the woods with glass as airplanes fly overhead spreading the DDT solution. The glass will be placed on the ground to determine how much spray reaches the ground. If the glass shows that the spray did not filter through to the ground, a second flight will be made over the area.

To determine effectiveness of the project, Evenden and his assistants will start another detailed ground check in July and August. The real check will come in the spring of 1949 when the woods are searched for tussock moth egg masses.

"We know the DDT solution will wipe out the moths if it reaches them," Evenden said. "The planes will fly no higher than 200 feet above the tree tops."

"However, it would be a miracle if we did not miss some areas."

Tussock moths multiply rapidly, as proved by experiments conducted in the bureau's Coeur d'Alene laboratory.

A complete and independent radio communications net has been established at headquarters under direction of L. F. Wilkinson of Missoula, forest service radio operator. He has direct communication with operators at the seven emergency fields located at Laird, Sanders, Princeton, Burnt Ridge, Cornell and Elk River. The net also includes Missoula forest service headquarters and lookout stations at East Dennis and Moscow mountain.

Wilbert R. Krumm and Charles E. Syverson, fire weather meteorologists from Missoula, are in charge of the weather reporting systems.

Tussock Moths to Get

Deadly DDT Spray Baths

By ELLSWORTH C. FRENCH,
Chronicle Staff Representative.

HEADQUARTERS, TUSSOCK MOTH PROJECT, MOSCOW, Idaho, May 20.—Tussock moth infestation has been discovered in more than 4000 acres of Douglas fir just across the Idaho-Washington line in the vicinity of Fairfield. It will be given an aerial DDT spray bath as part of the 350,000-acre moth project starting in the St. Joe national forest this week.

E. H. Myrick, coordinator here for the United States forest service and bureau of entomology, announced today an agreement had been reached whereby the Washington state forestry department will pay \$1000, the federal government 50 per cent and the timber owners the remaining portion of the spraying project on the Washington side of the line.

"Discovery of the moth in the Fairfield vicinity was made during an aerial survey flight, and was later confirmed by ground studies," said Myrick. "Seriousness of the infestation runs from heavy to medium."

Farmers Asked to Pay.

He said infestation has been discovered on individual farms. Government officials will contact the farmers soon with a view of securing their willingness to pay 42½ cents per acre for spraying. Cost per acre will be \$1.70.

The St. Joe forest moth project has already attracted the attention of national motion picture concerns. C. L. Edwards, representing Paramount, advised Myrick that he, Earl Nelson of Universal, and Ray Paulsen, owner of Western Motion Pictures will arrive about May 26 for several days of "shooting."

It was like an aerial circus coming to town yesterday afternoon as two tri-motored Fords and a C-47 belonging to the Johnson Flying Service, Missoula, circled Pullman for a landing at their base of operations at the Pullman-Moscow airport. Bob Johnson accompanied the flight and will remain on the project until completion.

H. R. Wallace of the Wallace Flying Service, Spokane, who operates a branch at Pullman, conferred with Johnson on details of the operation since it involves almost continuous landings and take-offs during the early morning hours of spraying.

Dawn comes about 3 a. m. over the St. Joe forest. Therefore, spray flying will start then and continue until about 9 a. m. in order to take advantage of most favorable weather.

Here to observe operations for the bureau of entomology is Arthur Gieser, who calls himself a "grasshopper pilot," since he specializes in spraying for the division of grasshopper control.

"Our grasshopper project is in the experimental stage," he said. "I have just come from a project where we made one flight over 10 acres. We found

only one live grasshopper after the flight.

"Aerial spray is being used by the bureau elsewhere on Gypsy moth, white fringer beetles and corn borer. The corn borer lives inside the stock, but comes out for air and a drink. We spray the corn and when Mr. Borer drinks the dew off the stock he dies."

Gieser's flying job is among the most dangerous as he skims over the ground only 10 feet above the crops. In the Tussock moth flights the pilots will fly not more than 200 feet above the tree tops.

Johnson's equipment attracted much attention on the Pullman-Moscow airport.

500-Foot Path Covered.

In the fuselage of the C-47 are four specially installed gasoline tanks capable of holding 1000 gallons of DDT solution, which feeds through the floor of the fuselage to a verticle pipe and three parallel pipes. Small holes are drilled in these pipes to release the solution. From a 200-foot altitude it is said that the spray will cover a flight path 500 feet wide.

The installation in the Fords is more involved since the Fords are high-wing airplanes. There are only two solution tanks capable of holding 750 gallons in the fuselages where there is a small gasoline engine to pump the solution through a pipe inside the wing. Halfway down the wing is an outlet to another pipe about 12 feet long on the underside of the wing. There are 18 holes in the pipe through which the spray will be released.

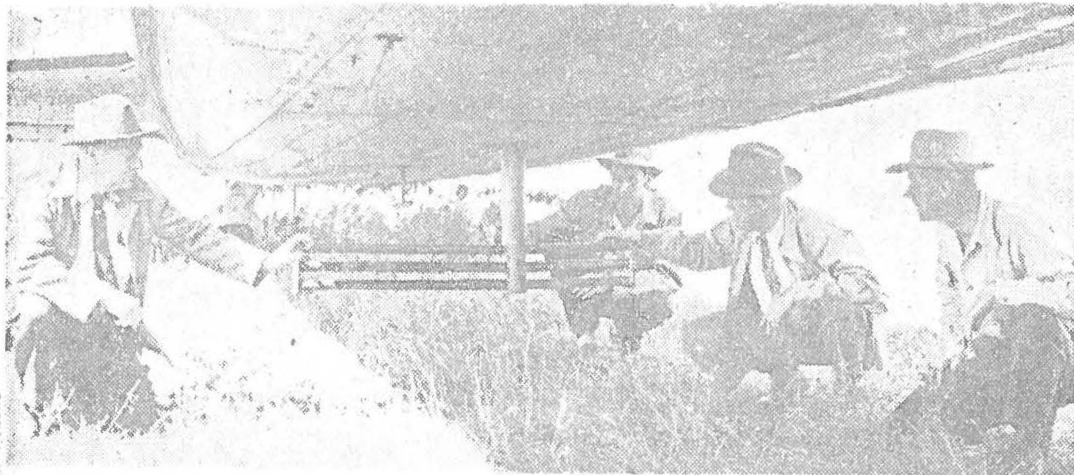
Pilot of the C-47 will be Orman LaVoie. Jack Hughes and Warren Ellison will fly the Fords. Johnson will be a frequent passenger.

Umatilla Forest Plans Air Spray

MOSCOW, Idaho, June 19. (AP)—An aerial spraying project similar to the one now in progress in northern Idaho, which is aimed at wiping out the tussock moth infestation, will be carried out in the Umatilla national forest in Oregon, Forest Supervisor C. M. Ewing announced today.

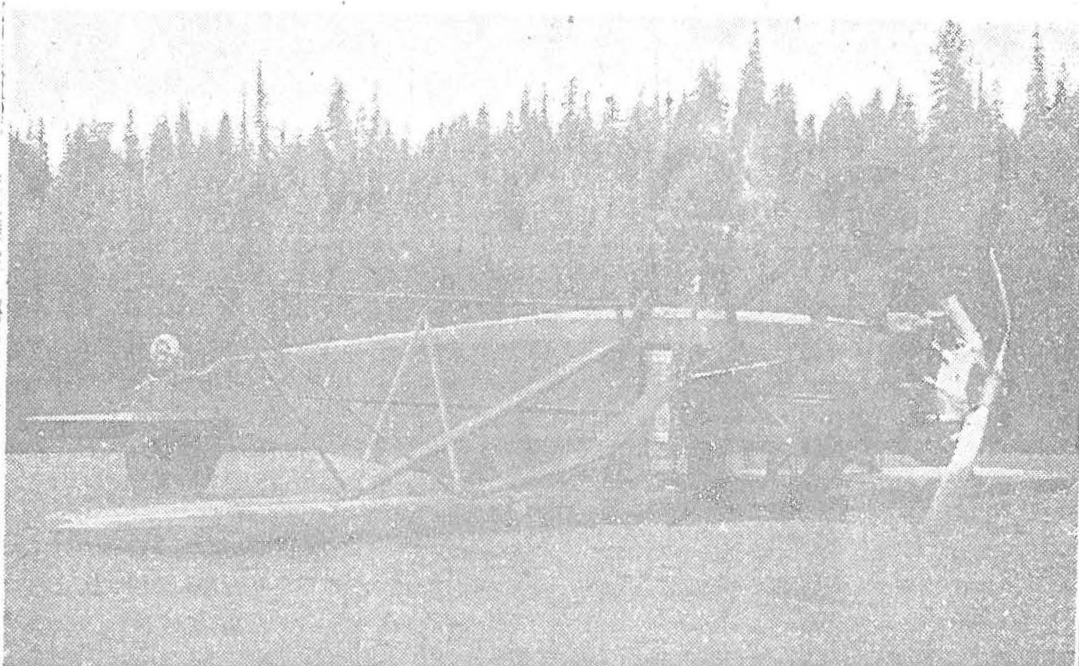
The Johnson Flying Service of Missoula, Mont., which is operating the spraying planes in this region, has been hired to drop DDT on 14,000 acres in the Umatilla area. The planes will use operational headquarters here for the Oregon job.

Another important phase of the operation is the transportation of DDT solution. A fleet of army gasoline trucks and trailers will operate between here and the landing fields. Trailers will be left at the fields, where special pumps will pump the spray into the airplanes.



SPRAY GUN

"Belly" spray equipment on the Johnson Flying Service DC-3 is inspected by Thomas Crossley, Ed Ring and Ready, Idaho forest service, and Henry Jones, fire warden, Kendrick protective district.



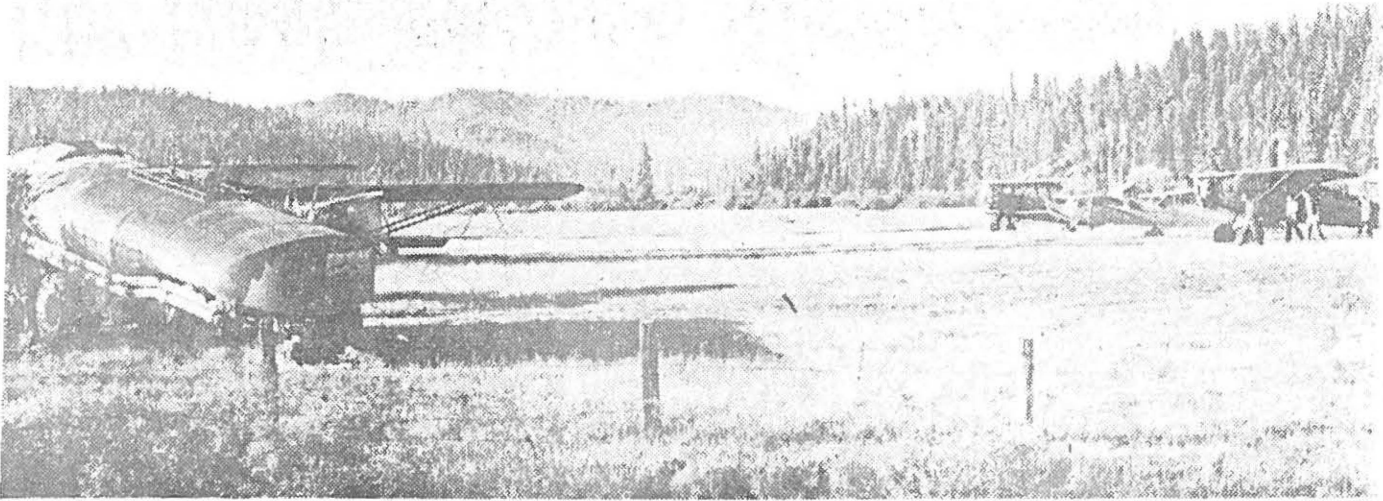
CASUALTY

Lady "Hard Luck" flipped a Central Aircraft corporation Stinson on its back during one of the initial take-offs from Laird Park airstrip. A soft field and heavy load of DDT caused the mishap.

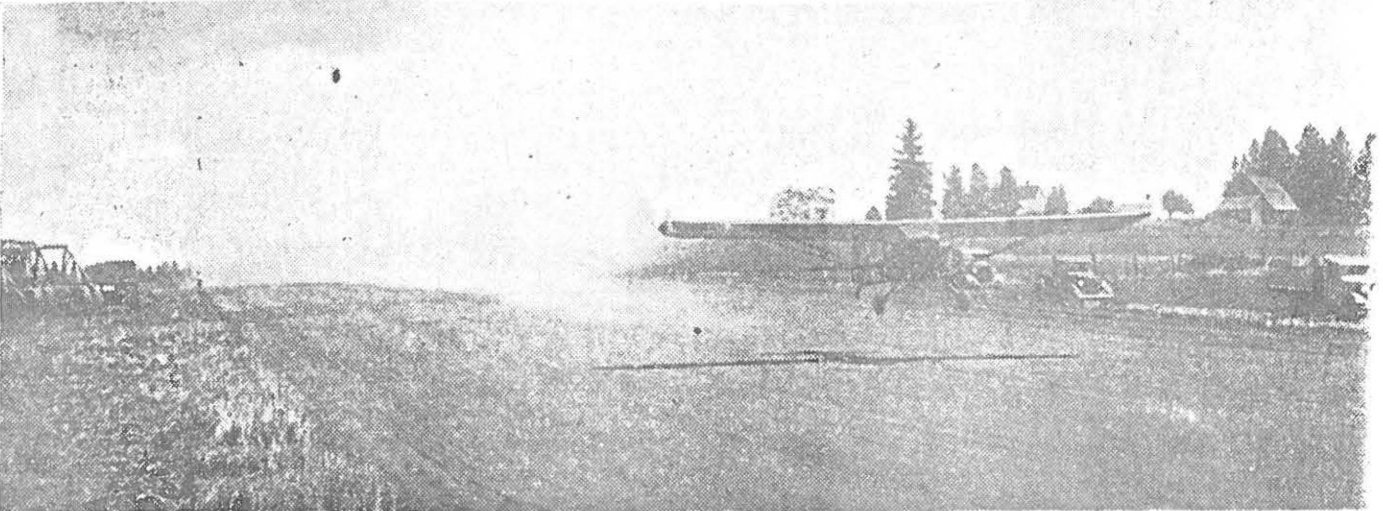


GASSING GAME

Both gasoline and DDT are included in airplane refueling operations. Minimum gasoline is carried on each flight in order to provide for a capacity load of the deadly spray solution.



OPERATIONS BASE Laird Park, Idaho, airstrip is the base for Central Aircraft flight operations. The army air force gas tanker carries the DDT solution from Moscow. Similar equipment carries the solution on the planes of the Johnson Flying Service, Missoula, operating from the Pullman-Moscow airport.



OFF TO WORK A Taylorcraft takes off from Burnt Ridge, one of the six landing strips especially constructed by the United States forest service for project operations. Communication headquarters, Moscow, is in constant radio contact with all fields day and night, taking progress reports and giving weather information.



WEATHERMAN Special weather observers at all landing fields send in hourly weather reports to Moscow, where they are consolidated for the pilots by these men. Left to right: Ralph T. Hanna, C. E. Syverson and W. R. Krumm.

MOTH SPRAYING IS NEARING END

Only 69,000 acres remain to be sprayed on the 350,000-acre Tussock moth project in the St. Joe national forest, James Evenden, senior entomologist for the United States department of agriculture in charge of the project, reported from headquarters in Moscow today.

"We've sprayed 281,000 acres to date, and will finish the project well before the contract date expires," he said. "Wind velocity has us grounded today, but our forecasts for tomorrow indicate we will fly."

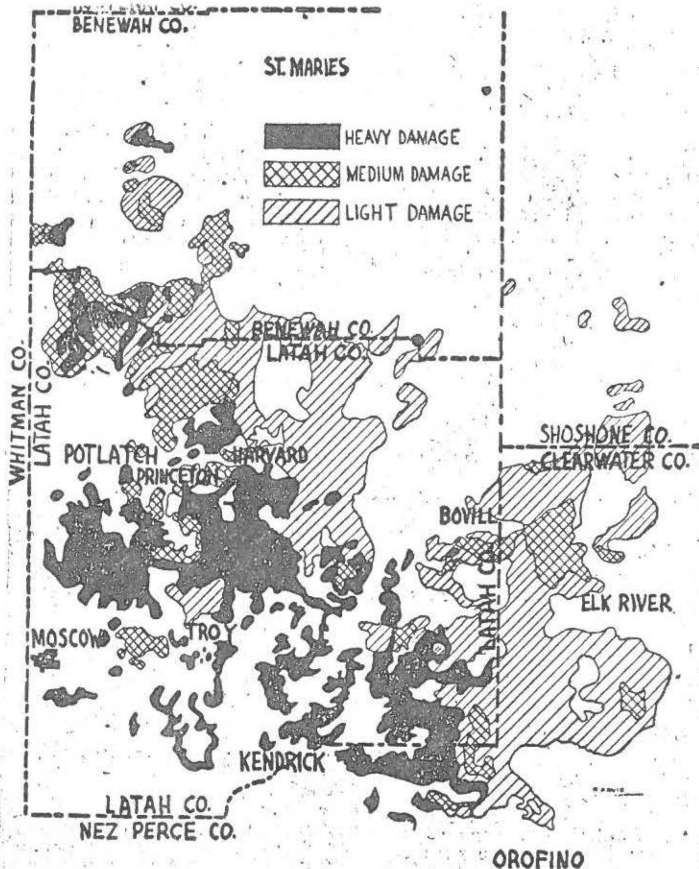
He expressed satisfaction with the results, adding: "They are as near 100 per cent as possible to obtain."

"We don't claim to have killed all the moths, but our ground crews have not been able to find any live moths in the sprayed areas," he continued.

He said that before the conclusion of the spray project a series of aerial observation flights will be made over the entire area to determine if any of the 1947 foliage has turned brown.

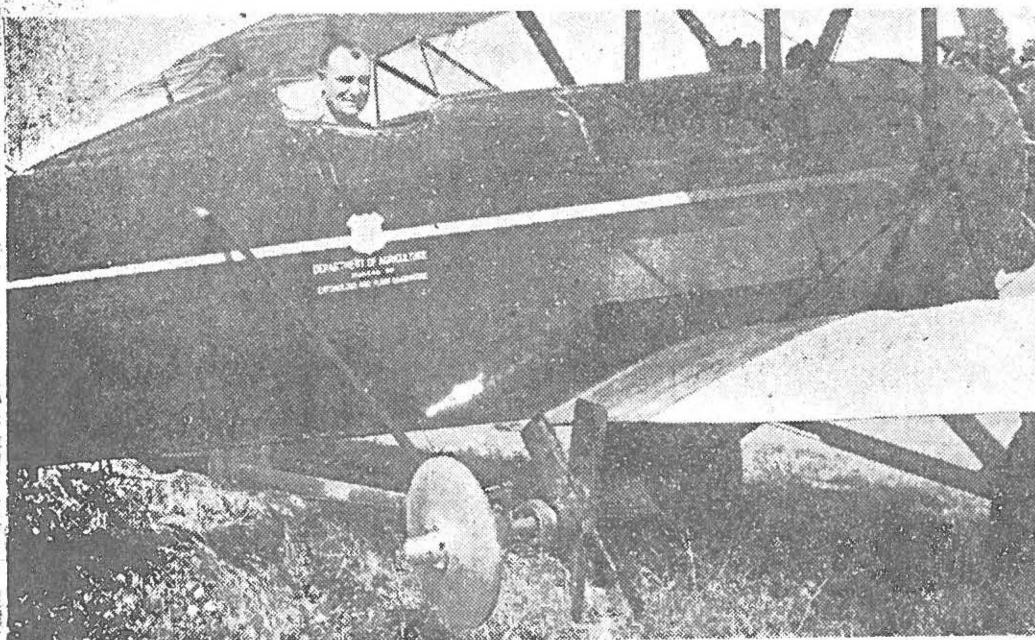
"Such spots will show from the air and we will go back and spray them."

He said pilots for the Johnson Flying Service of Missoula and Central Aircraft corporation of Yakima are ahead of their flying schedules.



INFESTED AREA

Almost within the shadows of Spokane is a 350,000-acre infestation of Tussock moth in Douglas and white fir timber in Benewah, Clearwater, Latah and Shoshone counties of Idaho. The degree of forest damage is shown in the legend of the above map. Operating under a United States department of agriculture contract, the Johnson Flying Service of Missoula, and Central Aircraft company of Yakima are scheduled to start next week to spray the area from the air with a solution of DDT. Forty tank cars of the solution will be sprayed over the area in an attempt to kill the deadly moth.



'HOPPER NEMESIS

Pilot Archie Geiser, bureau of entomology special observer on the project, arrives at Moscow in his "grasshopper-spraying" airplane. He flies 10 feet off the ground when spraying "hoppers."

No More Bugs in the Woods Since Planes Sprayed DDT

MOSCOW, Idaho, June 26.—This will be the best summer Latah county people ever have had to enjoy picnics and outings in the woods. They're practically guaranteed against being bothered by gnats, flies, wasps or mosquitoes.

These pests of the picnic baskets and the backs of picnickers' necks disappeared along with billions of Tussock moth caterpillars in the aerial spraying of, as of today, more than 300,000 acres of woodlands in the county and running over into southern Benewah county to the north.

Entomologists don't expect the disappearance of flies, gnats, wasps and mosquitoes to be permanent. On the other hand, they don't know—and won't predict—the ultimate effects on current disruption of nature's balance of insect and animal life in this little timber-enclosed empire. They expect to study these effects for quite a few years and perhaps learn a lot of fundamental evolutionary stuff on the subject.

But right now there just aren't any bugs in the woods.

That was learned a few days ago on a seven-hour inspection tour of a good portion of the county by the officials of the project to find out how well the aerial spraying job had obliterated the Tussock moth caterpillars, what the people out near the wooded area thought about the program, how thorough had been the spraying pattern, and what complaints, if any, there were.

The project office in Moscow had two definite complaints. One was verbal, the other in writing.

The first, reported orally, said family members were made ill by the DDT-oil spray, that young chickens were killed, a dog was near death and a vegetable garden ruined.

A visit to the farm by a project representative failed to find any dead chickens, the garden "spotted" by the oil spray but far from ruined, the ill members of the family visiting at the neighbors.

The second complaint reported three young calves died out of 51 born this spring in a herd of 148 beef cattle. The complaint seemed justified. Cattle foraging in sprayed territory will absorb small quantities of DDT without harm to themselves. The insecticide, however, will become concentrated in the milk of cows, particularly the butterfat in quantities not harmful to humans, but which might disturb young calves. Apparently that is what happened in this case, reported south of Deary.

Loser Favors Spraying.

But the man making the report wasn't making any actual complaint.

"The program has been a real help to the country," he told E. H. Myrick, project coordinator, when he was interviewed at his farm. "The flies were starting to bother the cattle, but since the area has

been sprayed we haven't seen a fly. It's been a good thing."

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H. Mael, Park, echoed his sentiment. He hadn't heard of any damage, hadn't seen a caterpillar this season.

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Mrs. Charles Noble, Avon, said the woods near her home last year had been "alive with caterpillars." This season she hadn't seen any.

Trees Recovering.

Trees which had been almost 100 per cent denuded last season near Avon, in the Park country, on Moscow mountain and near Princeton are lush with fresh, light-green needles.

"It looks like an almost complete recovery," Myrick explained.

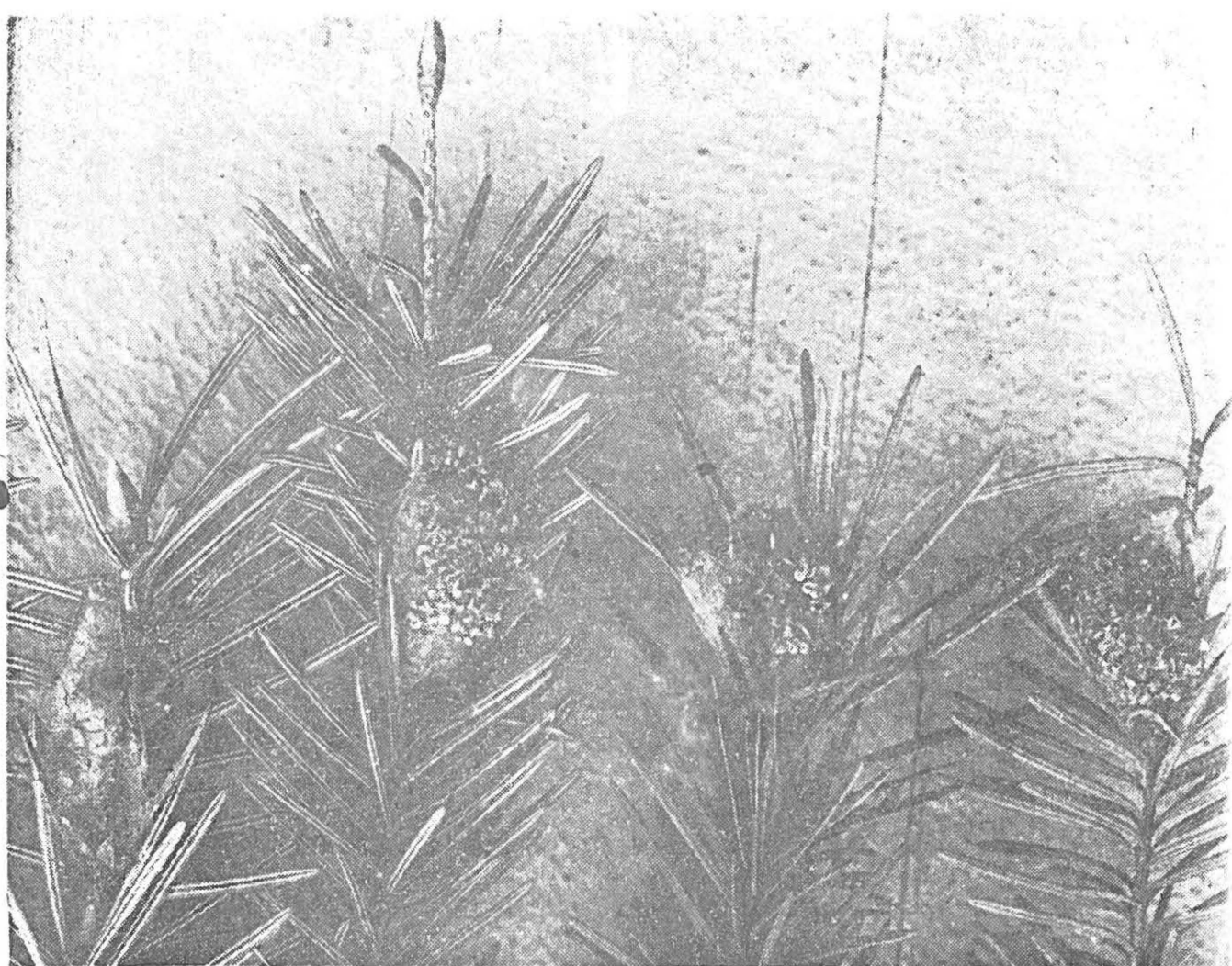
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Did the planes do any skipping in the spraying territory?

They may have, but it wasn't in evidence. Nowhere can you walk two feet without seeing those tell-tale brown spots, about the size of three pinheads, on bush leaves and the ground-growing plants. The DDT doesn't burn the evergreen needles, but it does most plant leaves.

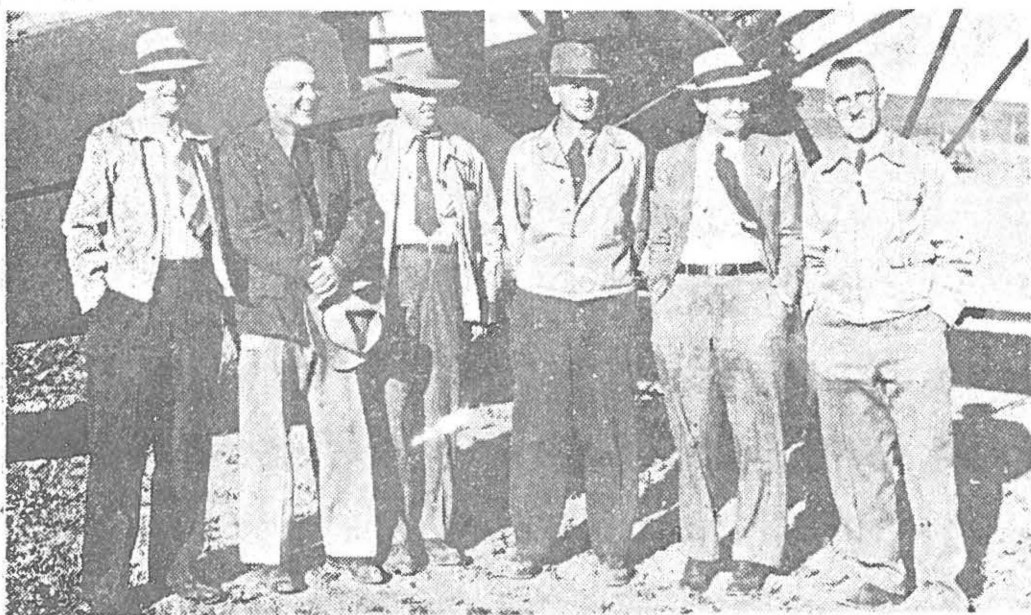


BIG CHECK Idaho Forester Ready (left) and Segersten, treasurer, Potlatch Timber Protective association, smile as Ready receives Idaho's \$88,272.34 check.



MOTH MENACE

Nestled among these Douglas fir needles is the cocoon of the deadly tussock moth. Warm temperatures hatch the eggs quickly, and the "youngsters" eagerly go to work stripping the green needles from valuable timber in the St. Joe national forest. About 350,000 acres have been infested.



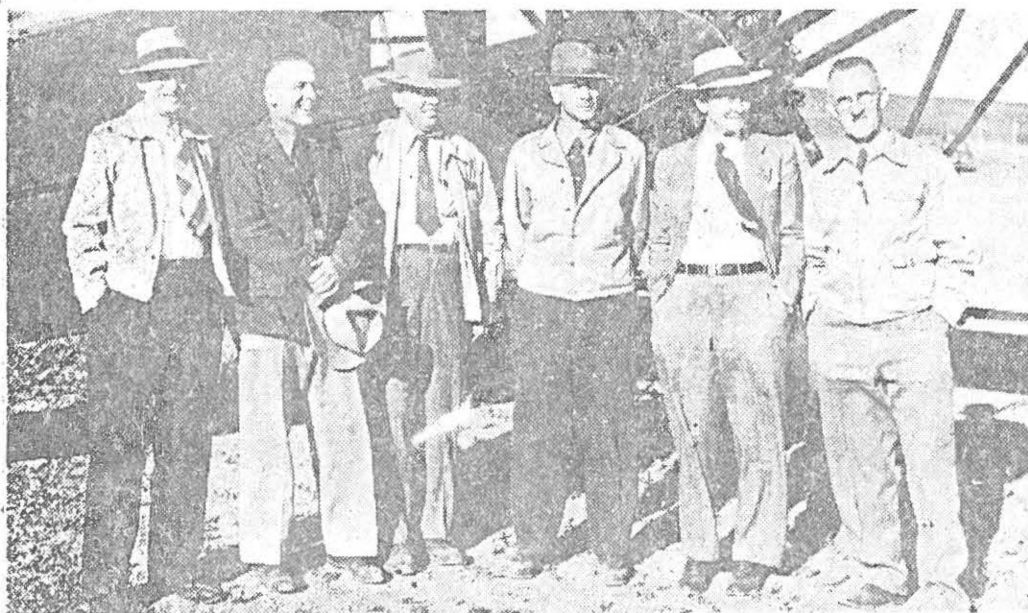
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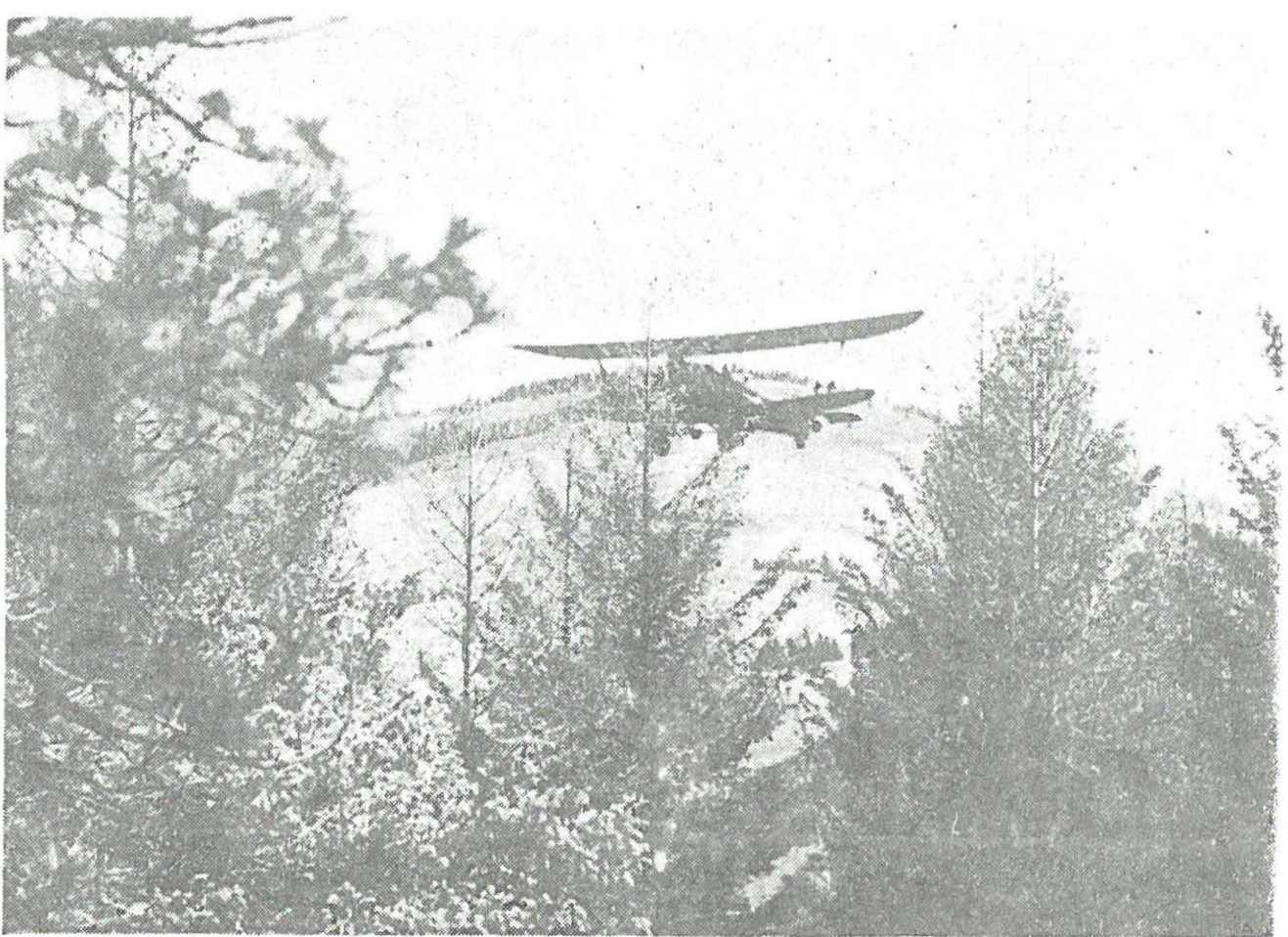
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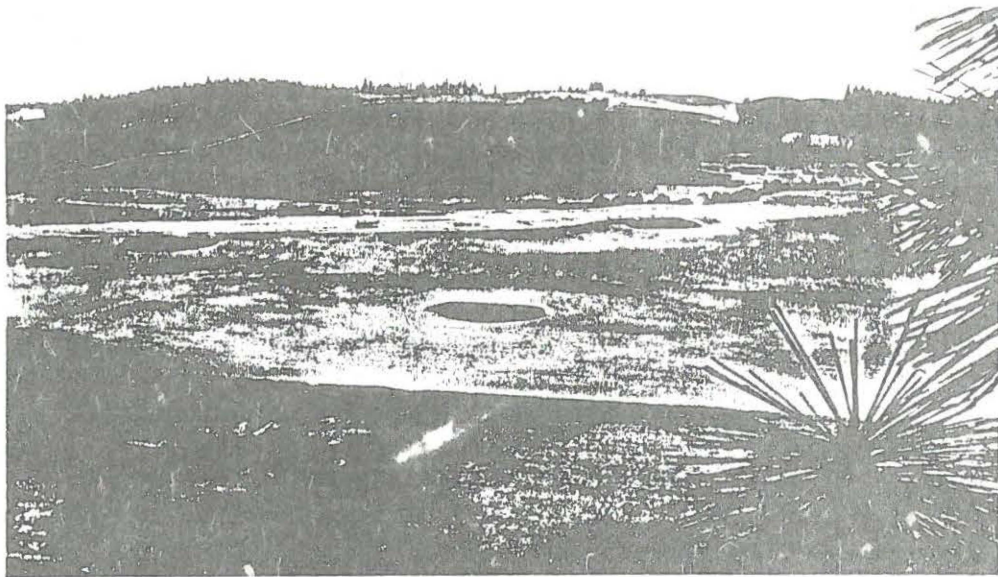
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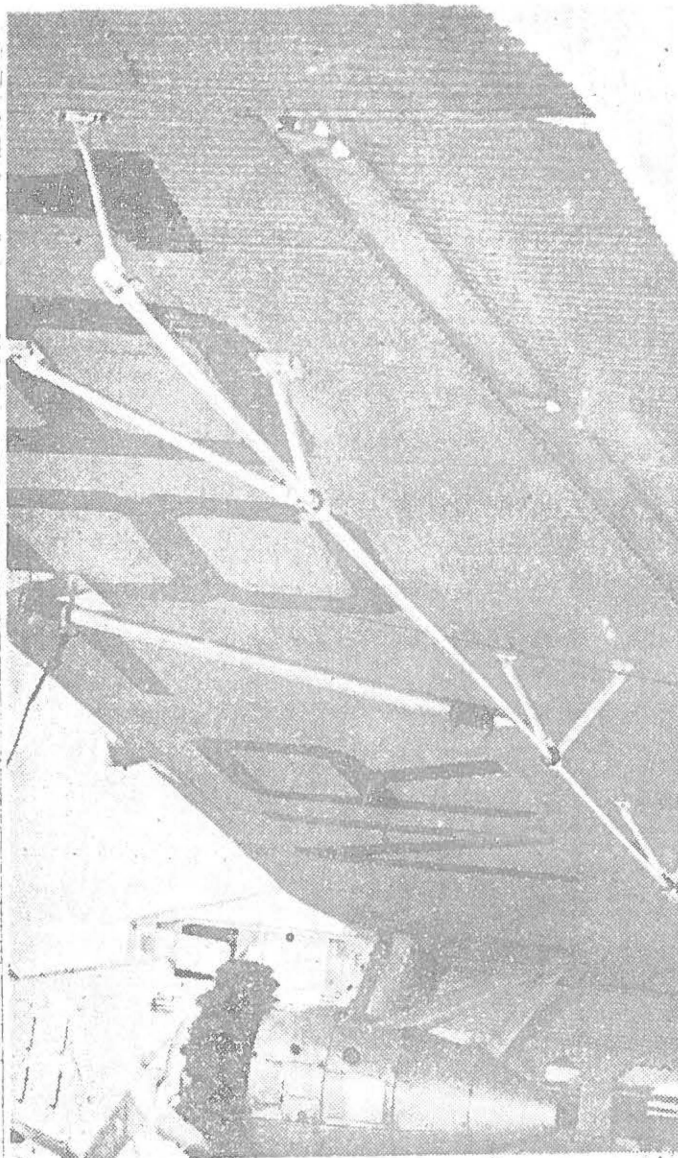
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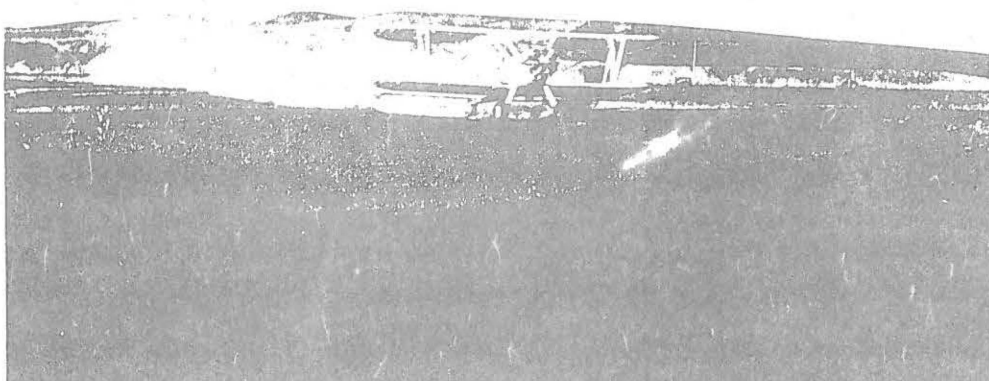
TREE CLIPPER There are no sleepy-eyed pilots on the project, which requires "tree-top flying" in order to spray a sufficient amount of the DDT solution at the ratio of one gallon for each of the 350,000 infested acres. planes dump their normal loads of DDT in from eight to 12 minutes, flying a pattern of flight lines.



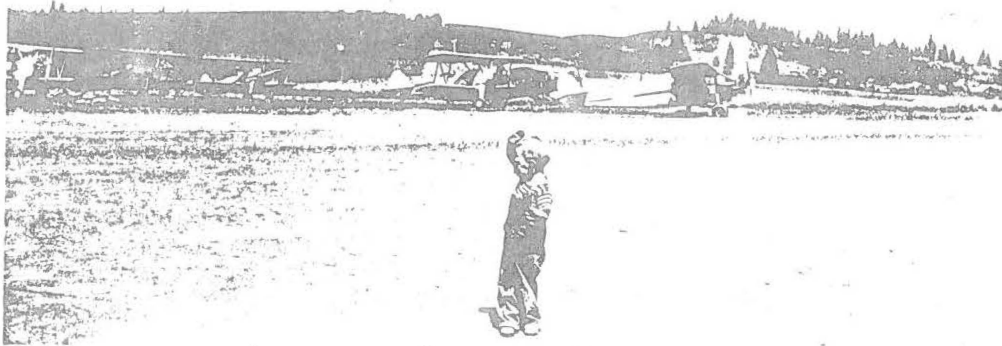
Landing Strip, Princeton, Idaho



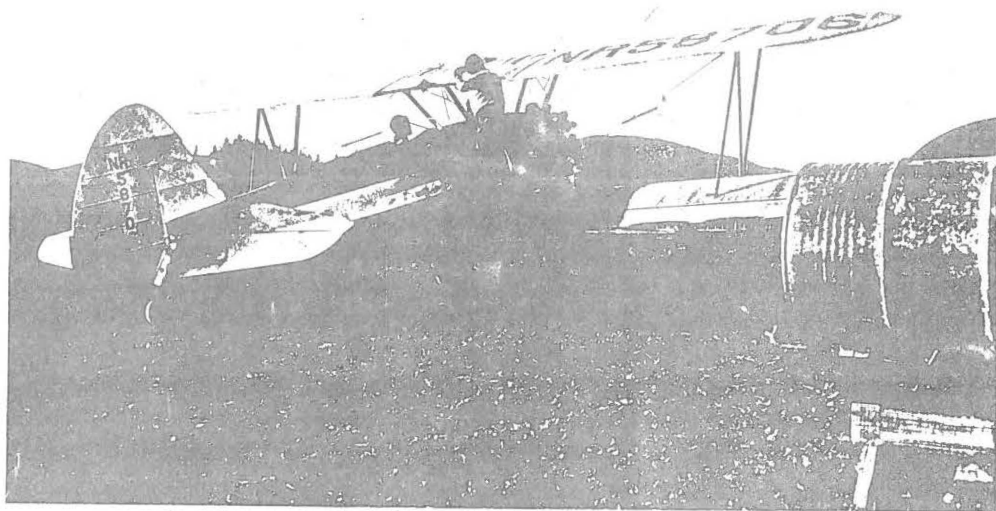
WING PIPES Mounted on the lower side of this tri-motored Ford plane is the special spray equipment through which flows the DDT solution.



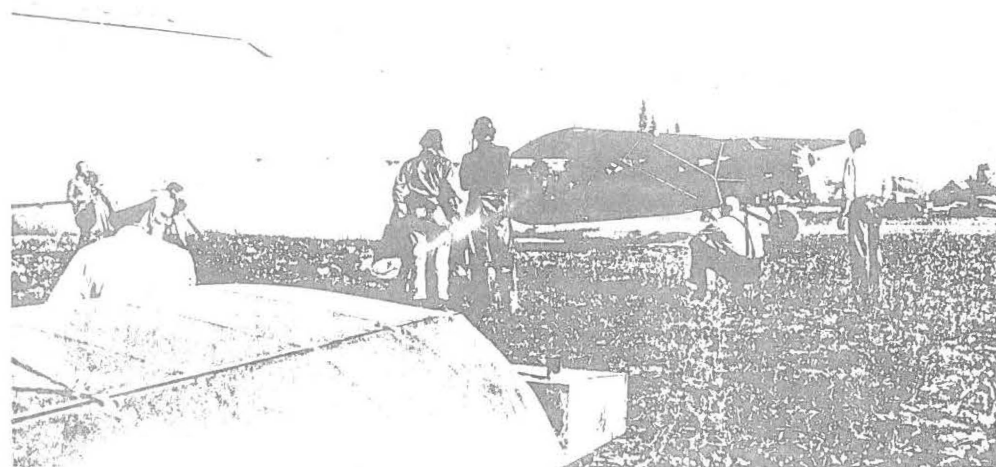
Stearman taking off



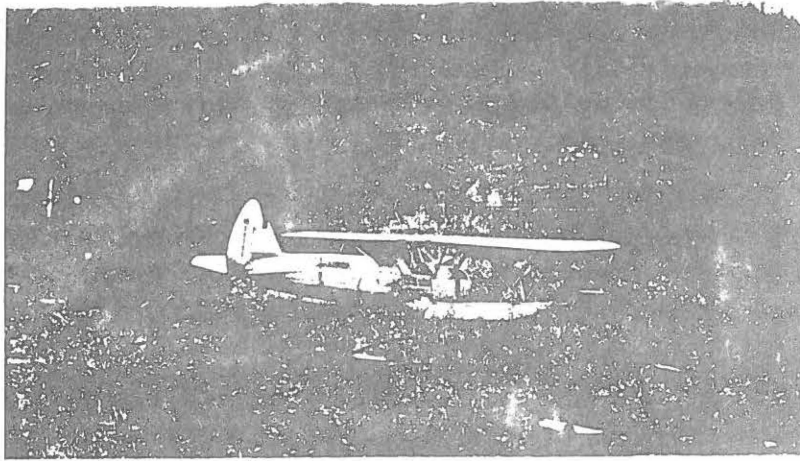
Landing Strip, Princeton



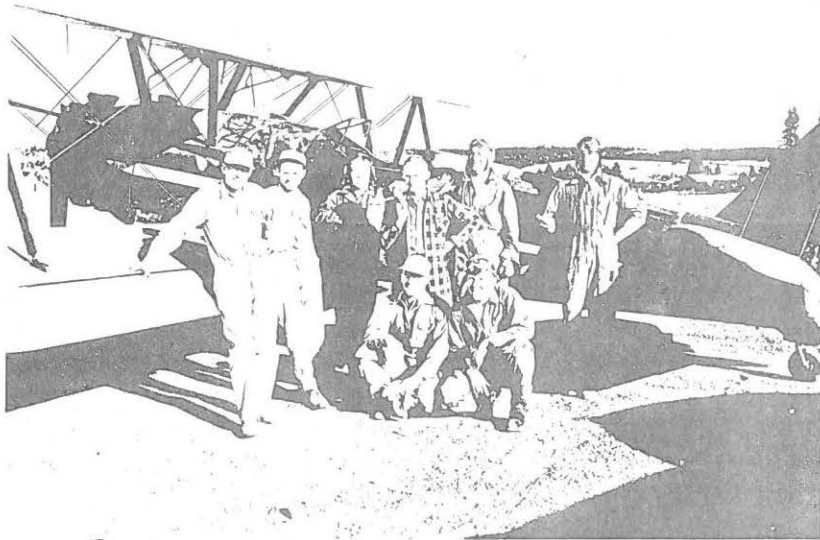
Filling plane with DDT



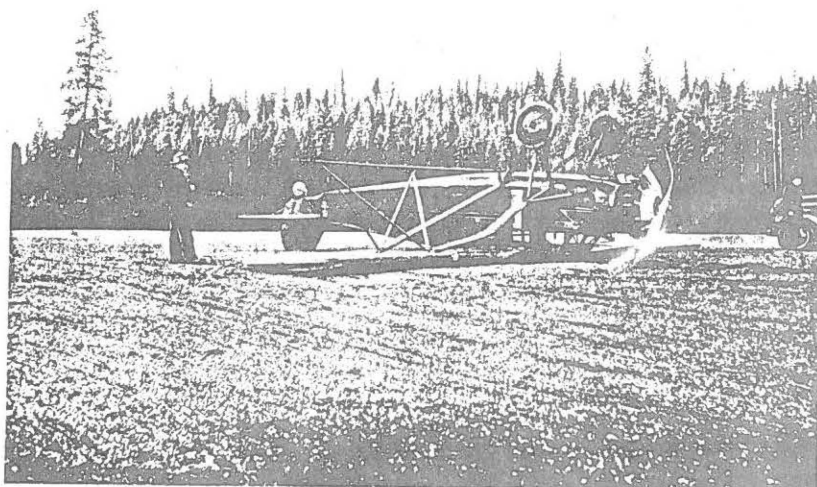
Travelair taking off with a load



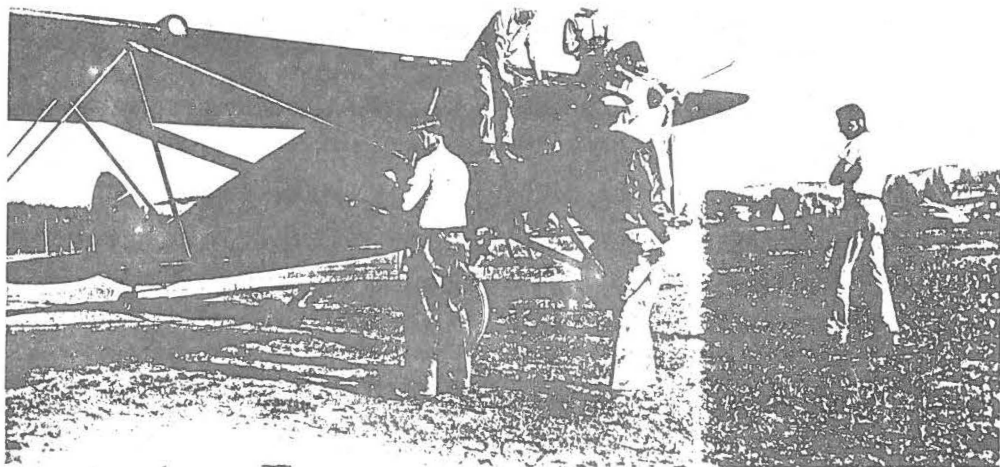
Larkin's Stearman makes forced landing



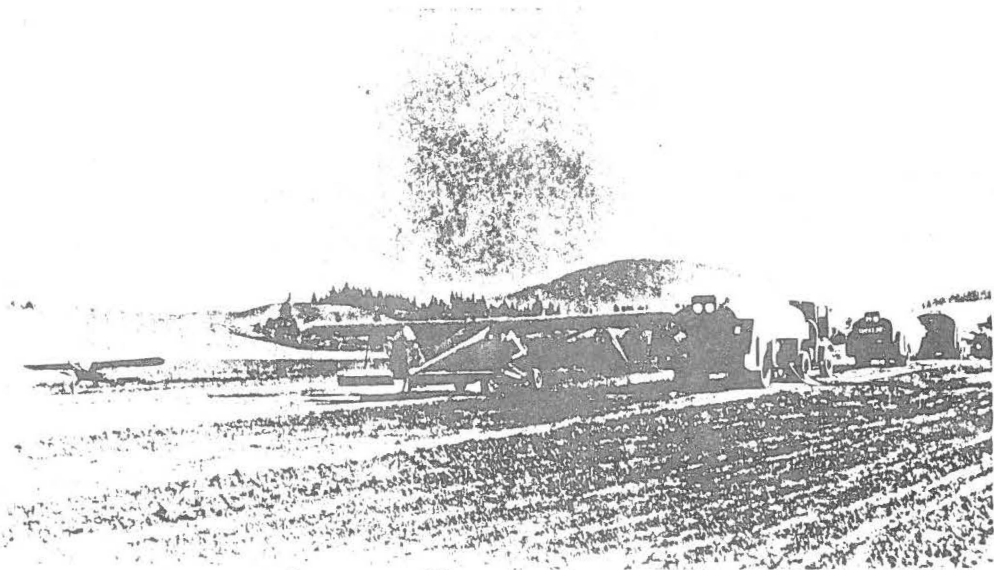
Pilots at Princeton Field



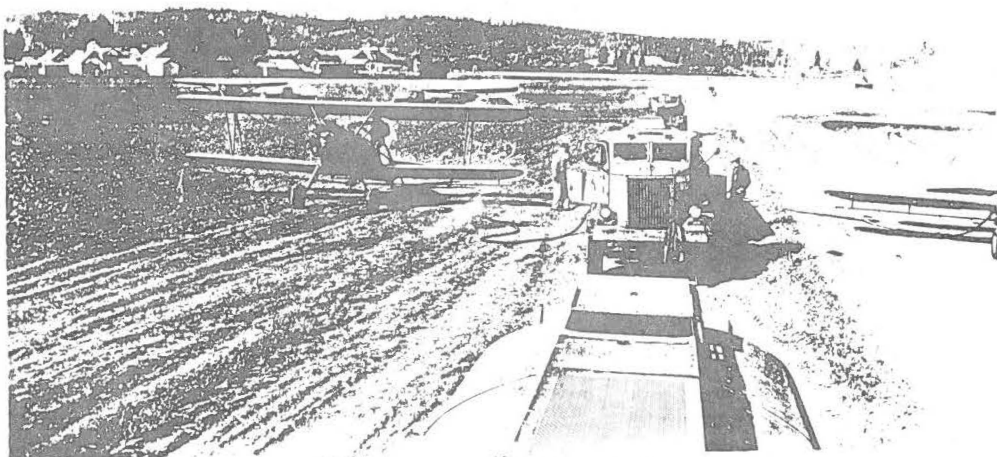
Stinson turns over, Laird Park



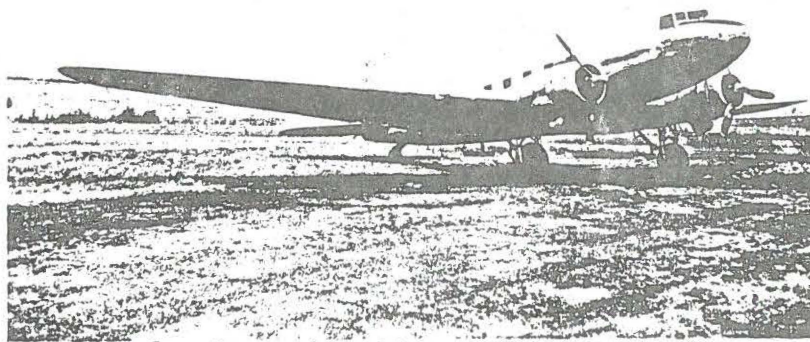
Loading Travelair with DDT



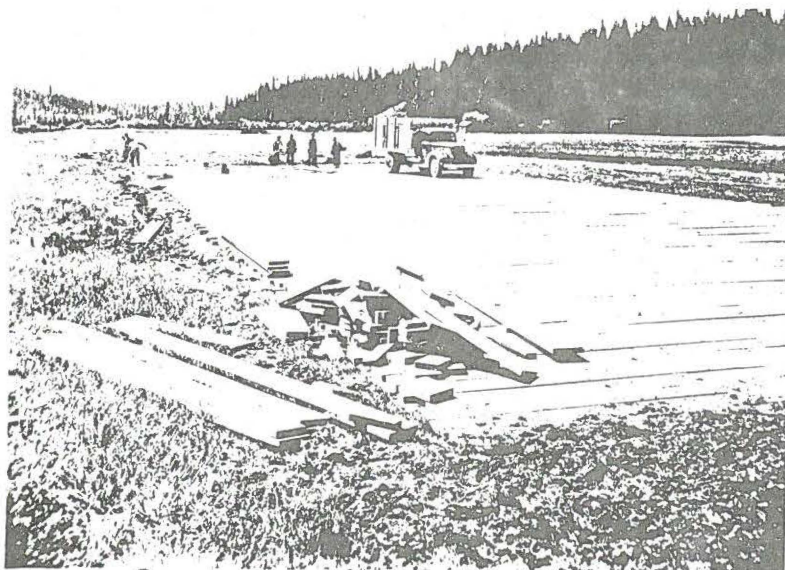
Landing Strip, Princeton, Ida.



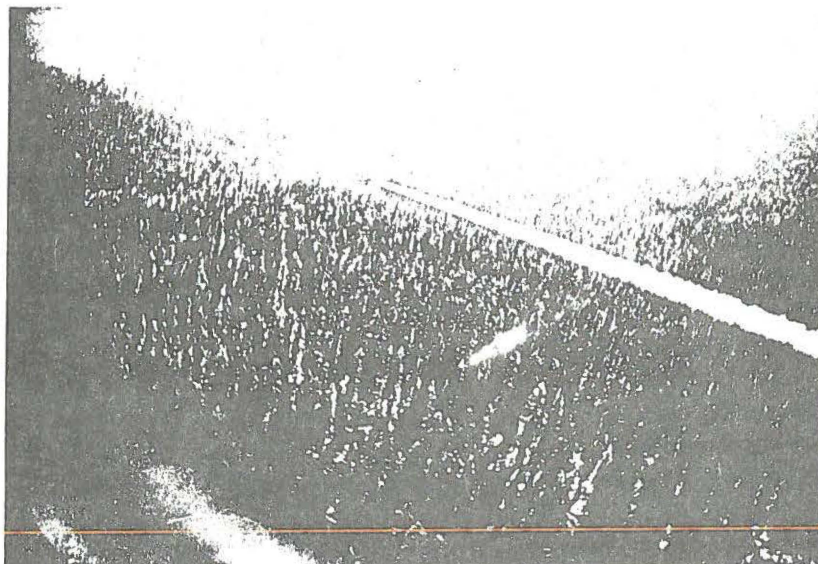
Landing Strip, Princeton, Ida.



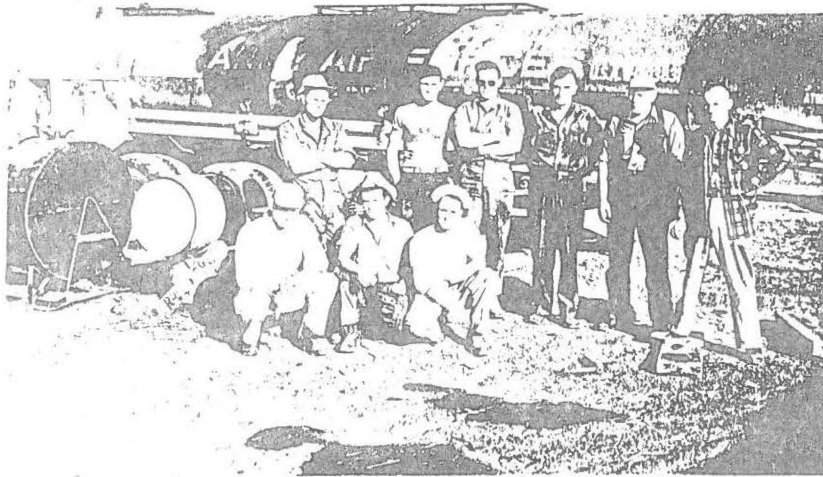
C-47 at Moscow Airport



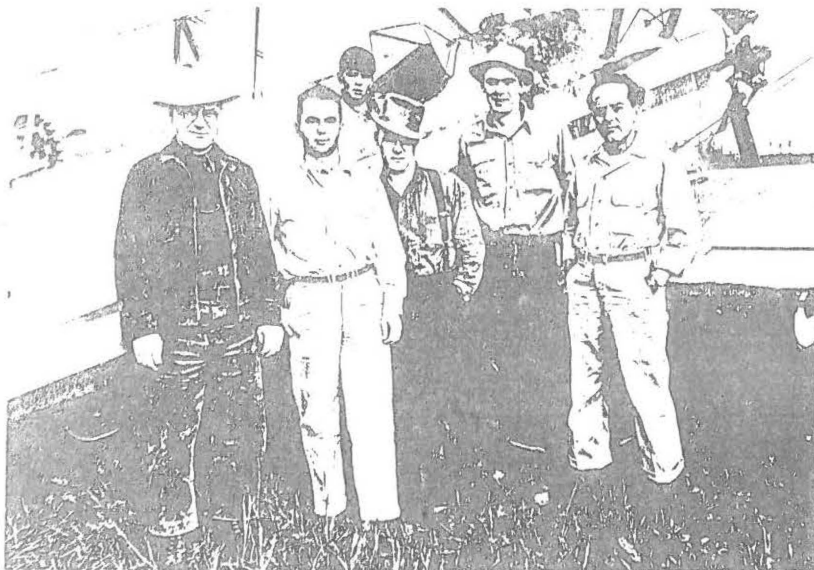
Planking strip at Laird Park



C-47 spraying



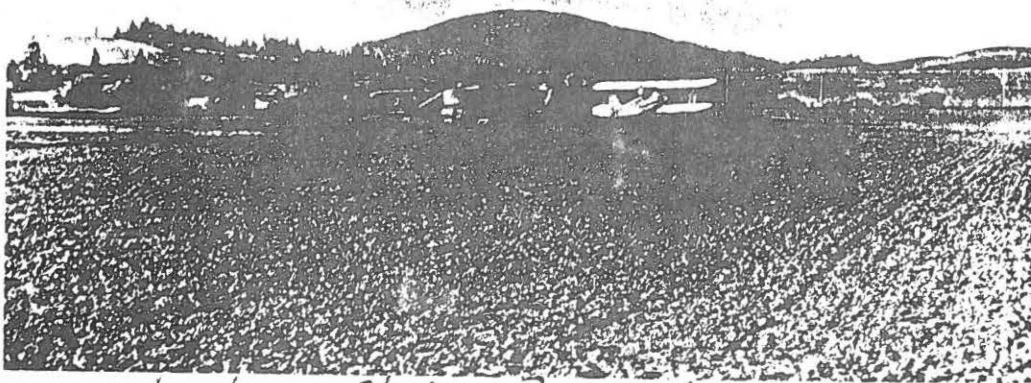
Ground crew, Princeton field



B.E. & P.O. crew



Stearman spraying, Laird Park



Landing Strip, Princeton, Ida



Larkins Stearman forced down



C-47 spraying

St. Joe Forest Fighters Winning Rigorous Battle

ST. MARIES, Idaho, Aug. 3.—Camp equipment and supplies were being air-dropped and 25 men were going overland to forest fires in the Redize and Conrad peak districts today.

Forest service officials said the fires would probably be brought under control today unless flames get into an extensive "blowdown" area of dead trees and brush near by.

A new fire was reported at Big Creek near Elsie creek, 22 air miles northeast of St. Maries.

A 1000-acre two-day blaze near the Mueller camp, six miles east of here in the St. Joe national forest, was expected to be brought under control today. More than 400 firefighters have battled the blaze, the biggest fire reported this year in region 1 (Montana, eastern Washington and northern Idaho).

Weather forecasters predicted moderate to light showers in the St. Maries area later today, but said there would be more dry lightning storms tomorrow and Sunday.

George Duvendack, supervisor of the St. Joe national forest, appealed to all campers, fishermen, tourists and other forest users to be extremely cautious.

"The forest service has enough fires to fight that were caused by lightning, without fighting man-made fires which could be prevented," Duvendack said.

A cigarette "flipper" was blamed for a small fire which started late yesterday in the Roundtop area 75 miles east of St. Maries. The blaze was controlled before major damage could result.

Wade Peterson, smoke jumper who was injured in jumping to the Mueller camp fire, only bruised rather than broke his shoulder; he has been returned to Missoula, Mont., region 1 headquarters. He is expected to be ready for jumping again in another week.

JUMPERS HOSPITALIZED

MISSOULA, Mont., Aug. 3. (P)—Aerial rescue teams brought three smoke jumpers here for treatment yesterday after they were injured in rough landings on fire jumps in remote back areas of forest service region No. 1.

Wade Peterson of Ilwaco, Wash., whose left shoulder was wrenched when he landed on the ground and rolled into down timber, expects to be ready to jump again within a week. An eight-man parachute rescue team brought him out. First reports were he had broken the shoulder.

He was one of 16 men who jumped on three fires in the St. Joe national forest and was injured while parachuting to a ridge between middle and west forks of Big creek. He was carried six miles on a stretcher, taken by ambulance to St. Maries, Idaho, then flown here.

James Russell Forbes of Danbury, Conn., and Douglas Wilkerson of Darby, Mont., were injured in jumps to a fire about five miles north of Lantz's bar in the Salmon river area of the Bitter Root forest in Idaho.

Crews Held in Reserve

BOISE, Aug. 3. (P)—Forest and grazing service crews have brought

under control all of the rash of fires which broke out this week in the wake of a dry lighting storm.

But Payette national forest officials have 77 Mexican farm laborers on hand in case the thunderstorm predicted by the weather bureau for today touches off more blazes.

A 50-acre fire in heavy timber on Bear creek ridge near Warren has been controlled, but a large mop-up crew is still battling the flames. A crew of 10 smoke jumpers and a ground crew of 50 men were sent to the area yesterday. The fire was whipped out of control by wind Wednesday night.

Payette forest officials said they had been unable to divert any of their smokejumpers to answer requests of Challis and Wallawa forest for the parachuting firefighters.

Several other small fires in the Payette forest have been brought under control.

Jumpers Aid Ground Men

One new blaze broke out in the Boise national forest yesterday, but eight jumpers and 20 ground men brought the one-acre blaze east of Horseshoe bend under control, fire dispatcher Lynn Knight said.

A 60-acre grass fire south of Boise was controlled by residents of the area before grazing service tankers arrived, the grazing service fire control office said. Another lightning-set fire in the Lucky Peak dam area southeast of Boise was extinguished.

Meanwhile, Governor Len Jordan appealed to Idahoans to use caution in the tinder-dry forests and grazing lands of the state, adding that not for several years has Idaho had such a critical fire danger.

The governor said he had to inform a Mayfield delegation that it would be impossible from a legal standpoint to close the rangeland and practical areas of Idaho.

"All Under Control"

COEUR D'ALENE, Idaho, Aug. 3.—Walter LaFon, forest service dispatcher, said today that there were no fires in the Coeur d'Alene forest today, but that yesterday there had been 12 small ones.

All had been brought under control, he said.

Earlier today, he said, there had been a small lightning storm, but there were no blazes reported.

FIRE LINES HOLD DESPITE BREAKS IN TWO PLACES

ST. MARIES, Idaho, Aug. 4.—Two new breaks in the line around the 1000-acre fire in the St. Joe national forest were quickly closed, the forest service reported today.

The fire was first ringed by firefighters at 2 p. m. yesterday and has been prevented from spreading, despite the breaks.

Two other fires upriver on the St. Joe are giving trouble, forest officials said. These are the Bluff point fire 16 miles east of Avery, where supplies are being shuttled in to fighters by helicopter, and the Conrad ridge fire on Mosquito creek, 22 miles east of Avery.

Officials have not stated how large is the Bluff point blaze. The Conrad ridge fire is being held to 15 acres, and is expected to be brought under control today.

Foresters said the fires are difficult to handle because of the inaccessibility of the country.

A fire at Trout creek was brought under control; forest service men credited an Ohio Match company crew headed by John Ankers with preventing further spread of the blaze.

Fire Fighter Stung

A Syracuse, N. Y., man, Al Grzenda, who has been helping fight the fires, was hospitalized at St. Maries yesterday after he was bitten severely by yellow jackets while fighting the 1000-acre blaze near the Mueller brothers camp.

George Duvendack, supervisor of the St. Joe national forest, expressed appreciation for the help given by crews of the Mueller brothers, the Carney and Bourn Lumber companies, the Ohio Match company and Potlatch Forests, Inc.

1944

1250 MEN FIGHT RAPIDLY SPREAD FIRE IN FOREST

Twelve hundred and fifty men, soldiers, sailors and civilians are battling a 1200-acre fire in the St. Joe national forest near Sanders, Idaho, Clifford H. Hunter, manager of the Spokane office of the United States forest service, reported this morning.

Confined to a 250-acre blaze yesterday, the fire spread to five times its size in the afternoon and last night. Low humidity of 16 per cent and a light breeze were given as principal factors in the rapid spread.

The area covered by fire is largely cut-over land, said Hunter, and quite a bit is covered with slashings from logging operations. He said the fire was believed to have been started from sparks from the exhaust of a tractor.

Fifteen to 16 miles of fireline must be built today if the fire is put under control, said Hunter. In addition to the 900 men, six bulldozers are on the job.

Three Groups Called.

Fire fighters include 600 aviation engineers from the 807th engineer aviation battalion at Geiger field, 450 sailors from the Farragut naval training station and more than 200 United States forest service men.

Geiger field also sent four bulldozers and crews to the fire scene. Two were sent from the Spokane United States forest service.

Hunter said the fire apparently started about noon Tuesday. Fifty men and one tractor were fighting it Wednesday, but it flared up when small wind twisters scattered embers beyond the fire lines and caused two more fires which spread to the original main fire.

"We anticipate continued low humidity and light variable breezes today," said Hunter, "so the fire control job will be even more difficult."

Fires Near Wenatchee.

Fifty freight parachutes loaded with supplies which can be dropped by planes into fire areas have been shipped to the Wenatchee forest where several fires were reported, said Hunter.

He said there was a fire hazard in northern Idaho, north of the Clearwater river, and in extreme northeastern Washington around Colville. "Dryness of the fuel and low visibility have slowed up detection of fires," Hunter said.

The state fire warden's office reported a one-acre timber fire on Deadman creek which started about 7:30 this morning was under control and was being patrolled.



SOLDIERS FIGHT FIRE More than 600 aviation engineers from Geiger field, equipped with four bulldozers and supported by navy, forest service and blister rust crews, are fighting 2500-acre forest fire in the St. Joe national forest near Sanders, Idaho. The

HOMES DESTROYED BY FOREST FIRE

Several homesteads were reported destroyed and the community of Sanders threatened as flames spread over 2500 acres in the St. Joe national forest this morning.

With 1250 men battling to establish a fireline around the highly fueled cutover area, the rapidly spreading blaze is still out of control, Clifford Hunter of the forest service reported.

Seven bulldozers, four manned by aviation engineers from Geiger field and three from forest service stations, were on the spot today to assist forest service fire fighters, Geiger field soldiers and Farragut naval training station sailors. Sixty German alien internees and 175 loggers from Potlatch Forests, Inc., were also assisting in the effort to control the fire, Mr. Hunter said.

Low temperatures during the night gave firefighters an opportunity to make slight gains which, however, may be offset today by low humidity and high temperatures.

A change in the wind from southwest to northeast was reported to be driving the flames back over the burned-over area and away from highway 95 which separates the town of Emida from the fire. This may assist in control of the fire during the day although success is not definitely in sight at this time.

Started Tuesday.

Burning since Tuesday, the blaze flared up Wednesday afternoon and has been spreading steadily since despite every effort to stop its progress.

Fire which yesterday afternoon threatened the Spokane Ski club quarters and other properties on the lower slopes of Mount Spokane was reported under control this morning after burning through about five acres of timber. The fire was about a half mile northwest of Mitcham's park on Deadman creek.

The fire started from a broken REA electric line, said Clarence Mitcham. Farmers and state fire wardens fought the fire late yesterday and patrolled it all night.

A fire burning along the railway near Chester yesterday afternoon destroyed two acres of second growth timber before being brought under control by state division of forestry fire fighters, S. W. Stevens, county fire warden, reported today.

Two grass fires in the Morgan acres district were put out with but little damage reported.

Mini Ship Hits Mine



ture at the left shows Mexican laborers moving up a fire break being opened by a bulldozer. The second picture shows a soldier combatting a spot fire on the edge of the main blaze. Cool weather last night aided the fire fighters. (Army photos taken by Pvt. James A. Patti.)

HOPE TO CONTROL SANDERS, IDAHO, BLAZE TODAY

Hope that the 2500-acre fire in the St. Joe national forest near Sanders, Idaho, may be brought under control today was expressed this morning by United States forest service officials at St. Maries, Idaho.

Clifford Hunter, manager of the Spokane United States forest service, said 1050 men were still battling the huge blaze. The fire fighters included aviation engineers from Geiger field, sailors from Farragut naval training station, 60 German internees and 60 Mexicans who were previously employed by the forest service in addition to forest service crews.

Unfavorable winds late yesterday gave fire fighters a setback, he said, and some of the fireline was lost. Only small gains in acreage were made by the flames, however, he said, and lines were still being held along all but a mile of the 15-mile perimeter.

"We expect continued high temperatures and low humidity today," said Hunter, "but we expect to get the fire under control unless winds arise and prevent it."

When the fire started last Tuesday where logging operations were being carried on in the forest, the sawmill was lost, he said. The fire was believed to have started from sparks from the exhaust of a tractor.

ST. JOE BLAZE IS SURROUNDED

Despite the loss of five miles of hard-won fire line on the St. Joe national forest blaze near Sanders, Idaho, yesterday, fire crews were reported to have completely surrounded the blaze early today with the establishment of fire lines covering an 18-mile perimeter.

"Under present adverse weather conditions, it is still questionable whether the 1000 men on duty can hold their own, but definite gains are being made toward definite control of this week-old fire," Clifford Hunter of the forest service said.

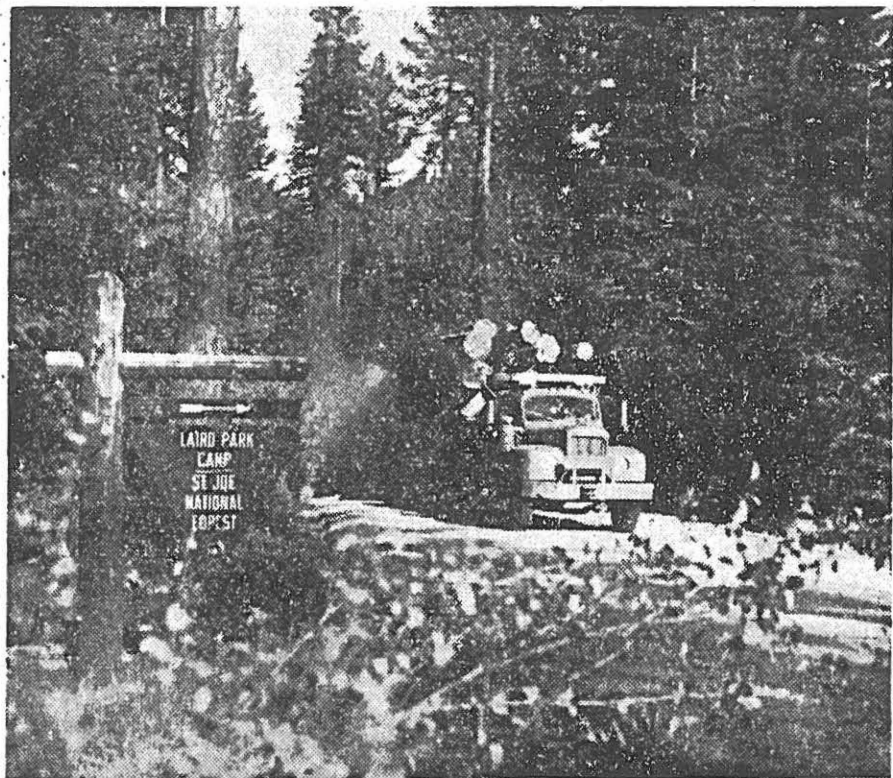
Sent to the Mirror lake area north of the town of Priest River to battle a 95-acre blaze caused by logging operations, 250 sailors from Farragut naval training center have been able to make but little progress, it was reported this morning.

-2- IDAHONIAN Mosco Princeton Man Honored

Presentation of an honor award certificate and emblem to Forest Service employe Rollo P. Perkins, Princeton, for 30 years federal service, was announced today by Supervisor Ray L. Hilding of St. Joe National Forest.

Perkins, a forestry technician working for the Palouse District, has worked on the St. Joe during the 30 years with the major portion of his time devoted to timber management work on the Palouse Ranger District.

Thirty-year certificates were presented to two other St. Joe Forest employes and 20-year certificates were presented to two employes. They all work in other areas of the St. Joe National Forest.



Forest service logs (left) are hauled past the Laird park entrance, demonstrating multiple use of na-

tional forests. Tom Finch shows Mrs. Olin a rustic picnic table which will be replaced by a modern

By LEILA OLIN

Chronicle Correspondent

ST. MARIES, Idaho, June 23.—The St. Joe national forest, with headquarters here, is doing spring house cleaning in camp ground and picnic areas, getting ready for summer visitors from the Inland Empire.

According to Merte Hoeflerber, in charge of recreation and lands, one of the major projects marked for extensive improvements is Laird park.

Lying deep in a cathedral-like forest of towering evergreens, Laird park is the largest of 17 improved campgrounds on the St. Joe national forest. Located just off U. S. highway 95A, about 30 miles south of St. Maries, it is easily accessible. A large portal sign, four miles north of Harvard, marks the turn off to this beautiful 120-acre camping site.

Overall plans made by specialists from Missoula, Mont., in campground planning, working with Tom Finch, ranger of the Palouse district, call for a complete redesign of the western area of the park this year.

New Units Planned

Thirty family units with new modern-designed tables and fireplaces will replace old worn-out camps built by the civilian conservation corps (CCC) in 1937. Construction of three-tenths of a mile of new road will give better access for cars and trailers, Finch said.

Each family unit will have

space for two cars or a car and trailer. Two units containing three huge tables and parking areas will be provided for big groups or organizations. Cedar plank tables, finished in natural color and mounted on concrete bases, each with its own metal grate fireplaces, are being installed.

Four new toilets, a modern "Chic Sale" version, will be built. Concrete floors and toilets made of stainless steel and plastic give a modern touch.

System New

A completely new water purification system will be installed in August, providing an unlimited quantity of pure water for cooking and drinking.

Last year the eastern end was worked on and late last fall work was begun on the western end of the park. The size of the crew, which began working May 1, varies from six men on clean-up and maintenance to three men crew working with bulldozer, dump truck and loader, repairing roads, building parking spurs and leveling the stream side beach.

"We hope to have the work completed in about six weeks," said Finch.

"In the meantime the use of the park in the west end by the public will be somewhat curtailed."

Trees in Abundance

Laird park is unique in that every tree specie common to northern Idaho can be found in this natural arboretum, all within the boundaries of the park, and

many representatives of the large gold growth of white pine, stands once covering most of northern Idaho, also can be viewed.

Just a year ago, 100 of the oldest and most defective trees that could be a hazard to the public were removed. The job was planned with logger Archie Kinman of Princeton to remove the dangerous trees. "Much praise is due Kinman and his crew," said Finch, "for their cooperation in falling and removing the old-time monarchs of the forest without changing the ap-

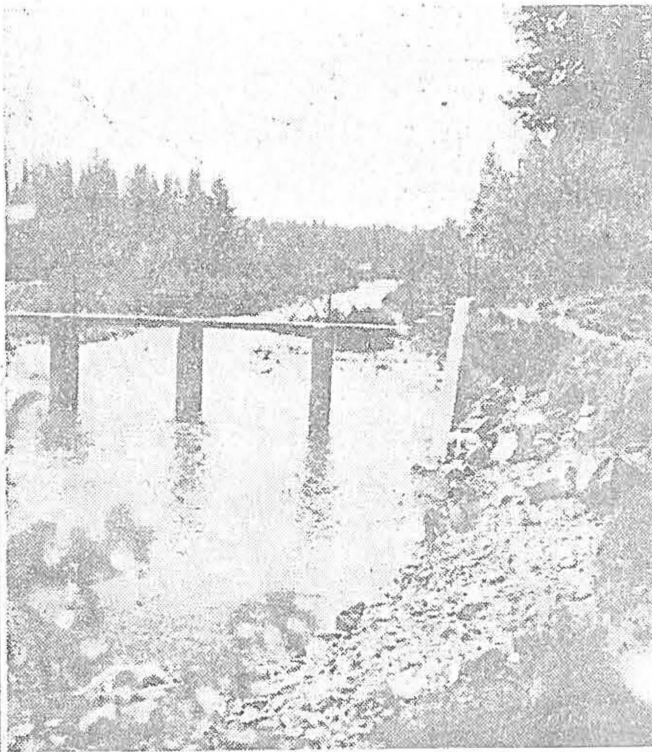
pearance of the park or damaging the rest of the trees. Sound logs were disposed of by commercial sale to Kinman and the cull material was sawed into fire-place lengths for summer campers.

Giant Felled

"I paced off probably one of the largest trees removed," Finch said, "and found it to be 204 feet tall after cut and 4 feet in diameter."

Deep in the heart of the forest winds the Palouse river, which provides swimming and wading facilities for the tourist. Head-

Rustic Laird Park for Season



—Holtzher photo

one. A sandy beach is to be developed near the pictured framework of a dam, shown without its

gates. Jack Summer places drainage culvert for an access road to the picnic area.

gates in the dam will be closed to make the pond deeper for swimming. The river bank is graded to provide a gentle slope and sand will be hauled to make a smooth beach.

Adjacent to the river is a large flat grassy meadow of approximately three acres, making an ideal spot for games such as softball.

In 1933 the land for the park was donated to the United States by Pollatch Forests, Inc., to perpetuate the name of Allison W. Laird and to secure for all people, particularly residents of

Latah county, the benefits of rest and recreation. The deed stipulated that the grounds be known as "Allison W. Laird park."

The park and its facilities are maintained by the forest service in perpetuation of this trust. A stone monument near the center of the park has been erected in memory of Mr. Laird.

Mr. Laird, who came to Idaho from Winona, Minn., in 1905, was long prominently identified with industrial, business and public affairs in northern Idaho, serving as general manager of PFI.

He also was general manager of the Washington, Idaho and

Montana Railroad company. He was one of the leading spirits in organizing fire protection in northern Idaho. He was president of the Pollatch Timber Protective association, which patrolled and looked after a district comprising approximately 1,000,000 acres, and president also of the North Idaho Forestry association.

Part of the deed stipulated that United States maintain the park in its natural condition. "We have kept that in mind in everything we do," said Finch, "disturbing as little as possible the natural scenery."

"The only problem we have in

the park is the indiscretion of driving off the road, which in ruins and detracts from the beauty of the place. We have been fortunate in that we have practically no vandalism."

There were 20,000 visitors to the park in 1959. All through summer one can find ranch wheat farmers, townsfolk, students from near-by universities making heavy use of "oasis on the edge of prairie."

Humans are not the only ones to come to Laird park, said Finch. "We are visited year by year by bear, deer and elk."

Gas Rationing Doesn't Bother "Mule Pilot" and His Pack String



Arthur Stubbs, United States forest service packer, ended a seven-day horseback ride Saturday when he returned to the Palouse district ranger station at Princeton, Idaho, with his string of pack mules from the government winter range near Missoula, Mont. The job of the "mule pilots," as packers are called, is highly important now to the forest service, since mile-

age of government trucks has been drastically cut to the most essential driving. Stubbs will be busy during the following weeks guiding his heavily loaded animals up the forest trails to the isolated lookouts, as the fire season begins and the towers are manned. C. E. Powell is ranger for the Palouse district.

Galea Leaves Palouse District

By DAVID JOHNSON

John Galea, Palouse District Ranger for the past five years, has been promoted by the U.S. Forest Service to a position on a planning team charged with studying the creation of new National Forests in Alaska.

Galea will leave the Moscow area, with his family, in two weeks for Anchorage, where he will be stationed.

Though he doesn't know the details of his new assignment, Galea said he will probably be dealing with some 18 million acres of Alaskan land that has been proposed to Congress for inclusion in the National Forest System.

During Galea's five years on the Palouse District, a number of new management practices were started, like "skyline" logging, rest-rotation grazing and recreational planning.

"If multiple-use management has a value, there couldn't be a better laboratory for testing it than right here in the Palouse," said Galea.

Unlike the vast forested country Galea will be dealing with in Alaska, the 550,000 acre Palouse District is a checkerboard of different habitat types, land uses and ownership.

As Galea looked back over his stay on the district, he said there are a number of things that stand out in his mind.

When he arrived on the district in 1970, objection to clear-cut logging was mounting throughout the nation.

"We had to look at ways of lessening logging impacts and one of the things we've strived for is techniques to lessen logging road impacts," said Galea.

The district began to look into a technique called "skyline" logging. Though expensive, the technique enabled loggers to literally reach out further over a forest for logs, said Galea. The method had been proven in other areas as a way of logging with fewer roads.

Prior to Galea's arrival, most logging operations on the district were of the

conventional kind that employed extensive road systems for getting to felled logs and skidding them out of the woods. Environmental impacts from such operations were becoming an issue as the public called for cleaner harvest methods.

Skyline logging utilizes an elaborate cable-pully system that is rigged up "over" a forest stand. Cut trees are plucked from the ground and transported through the air as if on an old-time clothes line.

Today, more than 35 million board feet of Palouse District timber is being harvested by the method, said Galea.

Another high spot in Galea's stint on the Palouse has been the growing cooperation he has received from forest users, he said.

He singled out the Kendrick and Helmer Cattleman's Association for the time and effort they have put in to establish a rest-rotation grazing system on the district.

"It's some of the best cooperation I've ever run across," said Galea. As a result of the new grazing systems, Galea said he thinks cattle numbers can be increased on the district and still be in harmony with other uses.

Galea remembered back to his arrival, when he first realized that conflicts existed between recreational users on the district. Backpackers, skiers, snowmobilers, fishermen, cyclists and other forest trail users seemed to be competing for use of various areas.

"We got together with all of them and had a series of meetings," recalled

Galea. Each group identified areas they used and out of it a recreational road and trail use brochure for the district was drawn up. The brochure identified high-use areas and marked areas restricted for motorized vehicles.

Galea said he will continue to watch, with interest, as progress on the Palouse District planning units nears completion. He said the district is broken into three units, White Pine Drive, Elk River and Palouse-Bovill. Environmental impact statements have been completed on the White Pine Unit. The Elk River Unit plan is being written and public meetings are being held on the Palouse-Bovill Unit, said Galea.

Galea came to the Palouse District from the Chugach National Forest in Alaska, where he was a district ranger. He is a native of Detroit, Mich. where he attended high school until he dropped out after ninth grade.

When he was 18 he joined the Navy. Before that, he worked as a ranch hand and logger in Montana.

"The magic word was Montana," said Galea who remembered that when he was young he was always looking at maps and stories about the West.

"I wanted to see the cowboys," he said.

When he was 22, Galea applied to the University of Montana for entrance. He had taken a general education development test in the Navy and that qualified him for special student status at the university. Galea graduated four years later with a bachelor's degree in forest management.



John Galea

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PALOUSE RANGER DISTRICT
75th Anniversary (1906-1981)

The Palouse Ranger District of the Clearwater National Forest marks its 75th anniversary this year. Until 1906, the whole St. Joe National Forest was part of the Coeur d'Alene National Forest located at Wallace, Idaho. In the fall of 1906 the first Forest officer, called the Deputy Supervisor, came to the District headquarters, which was then the Princeton Ranger Station at Princeton, Idaho. The Princeton station was occupied from 1906 until 1961. Tents were used for living quarters at the Ranger Station, and later a small office building and residence was built from salvage materials. In 1961 the new Ranger Station was built just west of Potlatch, Idaho.

In the early days of the Forest Service, the Rangers did not work a full season and needed other off-season work. So trappers and prospectors were attracted to Forest Service jobs. But they did work 6 days a week from sun up to sundown. The Ranger's stock was wintered over each year, and salaries for top woodsmen were \$70 a month. The public forests then, were wild and remote. Forest Rangers were as rugged as the lands, skilled with horses and experts in the woods.

William Daugs was the first year-long Ranger on the Palouse District. Dispatchers, scalers, and a Ranger Alternate were hired for just the summer months. In 1942, the Ranger Alternate was hired for year-long work. In 1944, the first office space was rented in Moscow, with work done in Princeton during the summer and in the Moscow office during the winter. In 1960, the Moscow office became the main office. A Work Center was established at Elk River in about 1961. It was closed in 1971 when all records were centralized in the Potlatch office, with an office remaining in Moscow for Information and Educational purposes.

The first improvement work on the District was a pack trail which started at the Ira Kinman ranch and climbed over Gold Hill. One of the duties of the Ranger was to check on homesteaders to see if they stayed on their claims. When the Forest Reserves were proclaimed, the land was withdrawn from all forms of entry, except mineral, subject to all valid claims. Thus, further homesteading was barred, but those living on the land under what was known as squatters' rights, could remain on their claim and eventually obtain a patent.

Bringing homesteading to a sudden halt on large areas was not in accordance with long established customs, nor did it meet with the approval of local people. In 1906, a law provided that some lands valuable for agriculture were to be opened to homestead entry. This placed the burden on the Department of Agriculture to examine all National Forest lands and list valuable farming land available for mineral entry. Some problems occurred when homesteads were abandoned later--after schools and roads were built at great expense.

Forest Service boundaries were usually drawn on the basis of fire protection. During the severe fires of 1910 in Idaho and Montana, which resulted from an early summer drought, there were no lookouts, little means of communication, and access was difficult. President Taft authorized the use of the regular Army for fire fighting during the 1910 fires.

Following the fires of 1910, it became evident that the Forests were too large for efficient management. Another positive result of the fire was the development of the fire fighting tool, the pulaski--a combination of hoe and axe, which is still in use.

The first fire lookout on the District was built on West Gold Hill about 1910. Between 1910 and about 1950, there was an average of about 12 lookouts that were manned each year on the District. In 1943, the first women lookouts were hired. In 1966, only two lookouts remained on the District--Bald Mountain and Gold Hill Lookout. Gold Hill was abandoned after 1966. Only one lookout remains on the District now, with the use of airplane patrols for fire detection.

Until 1927, there were few trails on the District. Most of them were built by prospectors and homesteaders. The big trail construction program started in 1927, and for several years trail work was done and more new lookouts were added. Today the District maintains 83 miles of recreation trails. In the winter, some trails are groomed and marked for cross-country skiing and snowmobiling on the District.

In 1933, the CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps) camps were started and they did mostly blister rust control work, to save the Western White Pine trees. In 1934 and 1935, the CCC crews built the first roads on the District. During the summer of 1935, work was begun on Laird Park Campground. The Laird Park Campground on the District was opened about 1937. In 1961 the Little Boulder Creek Campground was completed, after being initiated by the Deary Booster Club. The Giant White Pine Campground was opened to the public in 1968.

During the depression years (1930-1939) much land in Latah and Clearwater counties passed into county ownership and then was donated to the National Forest. Large acreages were donated to the National Forest by timber companies also. Potlatch Lumber Company donated the land including Laird Park to the Forest Service. On some of these donated (acquired) lands, the mineral rights were reserved.

In 1947, the first tussock moth spray project was carried out with successful results. In 1965 another eradication program to prevent this insect from invading North Idaho's valuable timber stands, was completed.

In 1949, the first radio was installed on the Palouse District at Bald Mountain Lookout. More were added the next year. In 1952, District personnel began taking down telephone lines, when radios replaced telephones.

Timber sales were made after World War II, around 1945, usually when someone wanted a sale. After 1954, small sales were prepared and advertised, and larger sales were put up for bid. In 1969, the District had 22 active timber sales.

When logging was started on the St. Joe National Forest, logs were removed by horses. Now, some sophisticated equipment, such as high lead logging and helicopter logging is being used in certain areas. Thus road building is not necessary, and erosion damage is reduced.

Forest Service crews on the District, and contract planting crews planted 350,000 trees on the Palouse Ranger District in the spring of 1980. About 320 acres of trees were thinned for better growth, in 1980.

Between 1906 and 1942, there was some gold dredging activity along the North Fork of the Palouse River above Larid Park. Increased interest in the past year or two has been shown in gold prospecting, and small amounts can be panned in some areas on the Palouse District.

Due to the energy crisis of coal and oil shortages, and high prices, the District began issuing free firewood permits to gather wood on National Forest lands. In 1973, only 200 permits were issued on the District. In 1980, nearly 4,000 permits were issued. Wood is still available and efforts are being made to make it accessible and meet the demand and need.

Last year there were about 3,000 head of cattle grazing on National Forest land on the Palouse Ranger District. There is a grazing fee and the Forest Service usually furnishes materials and the cattlemen furnish the labor for fences and cattleguards.

Early concerns were for fire prevention and timber production, but before long, the multiple use (wood, water, forage, wildlife, and recreation) concept was emphasized, to provide benefits to all the people.

If you have any questions regarding past, present, or future activities, please contact the Palouse Ranger District at Potlatch, Idaho. (208-875-1131)

NOTE

This publication has been prepared to document the administrative history of the Palouse Ranger District, St. Joe National Forest of the United States Forest Service.

The reader is requested to furnish corrections, additions, or suggestions for future revisions.

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